

Isn't Christianity Homophobic? - Mark 10:1-12 **Notes, Family Worship, Bible Reading**

Notes from the Sermon

A few years ago, East Central College had a threat posed by "Westboro Baptist Church" that they were going to show up and protest a play they had going in their theatre department. That play was about a homosexual man who was lynched to death. As the college banded together to protest the protesters, an amazing thing happened: Christians there were able to have an honest and good conversation with those there who were in that world. Most were under the impression that Westboro Baptist, a cult, represented what all Christians believed about those who identify as LGBT. Were they right?

In general, Christians aren't known to the world for their loving kindness toward those who are in the LGBT community. We have a track record for pushing people away who have sins we don't like (but have no issue with sins we do, such as gluttony, drunkenness, adultery, divorce, etc.) That community has picked up on that, and therefore, we have been labeled "homophobic."

As of right now, current data tells us that those who belong to the "Generation Z" are setting records with those "coming out" as LGBT. Over 1 in 5 now identify as something other than heterosexual, and with that has come tremendous confusion about what God has said, whether or not God can be trusted (especially with biological sex), and whether or not God's people will "get on the right side of history" and support/promote the LGBT cause.

More and more, church, this group is are our mission field. They are the ones we must reach for the gospel, and prove them wrong about us being "homophobic." To the contrary, we must love them to Christ by both showing them love and preaching the truth.

When we read our text for this week, Mark 10:1-12, we see the amazing truth of what Jesus believes is THE pattern for sexuality and relationships: one man and woman (binary sexes, not infinite gender identities), united in marriage (not polygamy or polyamory), for one lifetime (not prone to divorce or multiple partners.) Notice, also, Jesus here has his chance to promote or allow homosexuality or any other thing, and he doesn't. He shows us God's plan from the beginning of Genesis 1 (He quotes it in Mark 10) and that plan hasn't changed, and any deviation from that is to our ruin and goes against God's best for us, and is therefore sin.

There's so much more that can be said, such as how our young people are being influenced by TikTok and YouTube (a correlation made between the data mentioned earlier would note this number rises with the influence of social media access to this age group) and how this isn't just a sin issue but a societal one, but one thing is clear: At home, tell your kids the honest truth. They will meet those and even likely be friends with those who live alternative lifestyles contrary to the gospel, and, they themselves may struggle with this issue (one in five do, don't forget that.) We must be diligent to tell them that God is available, that repentance and forgiveness is available and that God is so much better than what we want for ourselves, and that their friends and your

family/neighbors need to hear that same message.

Ultimately, this issue must be solved by repentant hearts turning to Jesus Christ for forgiveness, and trading in the treasures of self-fulfillment and worldly desire for the greatness and worthiness of God. This is true for all sinners, you and I included. Love those who currently rebel against our amazing God, pray for them, and be ready to give an answer for the hope you have within you (1 Peter 3).

Bible Reading for the Week

Daily Bible Readings

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
2 Thess- alonians 1	2 Thess- alonians 2	2 Thess- alonians 3	Deuter- onomy 1	Deuter- onomy 2	Deuter- onomy 3	Deuter- onomy 4

Reading from this past week: Mark 10:1-12

Reading in preparation for this coming Sunday: Genesis 1

Family Worship

Song - *His Mercy is More*

<https://youtu.be/l1GiZL60c80>

Gospel Project

Unit: The Teachings of Jesus

Story: Jesus taught about God's Kingdom

Big Picture Question: What did Jesus teach when He was on earth?

Answer: Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. He taught that all Scripture is about Him.

Scripture: Matthew 13

New City Catechism

Question #31: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

Answer: See the Apostle's Creed

Verse: Jude 3

Scripture

Mark 10:1-12

- Have you ever witnessed someone being mistreated by a Christian for beliefs that are different from our own?
- According to Jesus, what is God's plan for marriage and sexuality?
- How can we hold to the truth of the Scriptures while seeking to love people who identify as LGBTQ?
- How is Jesus the best model for the truth/love paradox? What are some ways he showed love while holding to Biblical convictions?

Prayer

Pray that we would stay true to our convictions about marriage and sexuality while showing compassion and sharing Jesus to people in the LGBTQ community..

*Pray for our partners at Send Relief and for those who are meeting needs and sharing Jesus in the midst of disasters.