



Home Group D-Guide

*What's The Big Deal About
Homosexuality & Gay Marriage?*

ICEBREAKER: What's your opinion on capital punishment?

OVERVIEW: Homosexuality and gay marriage are highly controversial issues right now. In December Phil Robertson was suspended by A&E from his reality show, "Duck Dynasty" for verbalizing his agreement with the traditional Christian view that homosexuality is sinful. After a loud protest from the Christian community around the country, he was reinstated a month later. In January of this year, American street preacher Tony Milano was arrested in Scotland for calling homosexuality, along with many other behaviors, a sin. And just recently, on February 10, college football star and NFL prospect Michael Sam announced that he is gay, receiving much media fanfare and high-ranking support from the likes of First Lady Michelle Obama. How are Christ-followers to live when it comes to the issue of homosexuality and gay marriage? Should we support gays, protest them, ignore them, or try to reach them? In this discussion we will go deeper with this highly critical issue of our times.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. What does this passage teach about homosexuality? How can you apply it to your life?
3. In his sermon Perry Noble said, "Going to heaven has nothing to do with our work. It has everything to do with Christ's finished work on the cross. We're not saved because of our behavior. We're saved because of what Jesus did for us." Why is this important to remember when it comes to the issue of homosexuality?

4. Read Matthew 19:4-6. What can we learn about God's view on homosexuality from this passage? How can you apply it to your life?.
5. What does it mean to use the Bible like a mirror rather than a window, and how does this relate to homosexuality?
6. Perry mentioned 3 objections against the traditional Christian view on homosexuality. Write a one sentence response to each objection in defense of the Biblical view on homosexuality.
 - "I was born this way."
 - "Why would I have these strong feelings if God didn't want me to fulfill them?"
 - "Christians are supposed to be tolerant; calling homosexuality a sin is intolerant."
7. The Bible defines a clear code of sexual conduct: A covenanted union of one man for one woman (until the death of either) as the Lord's standard for all people in every society. Why should Christians confront all forms of sexual sin? Are we killjoys, scared that people are enjoying themselves somewhere? Explain.
8. It is becoming more and more unpopular to critique homosexuality. Is there a way to stand for what is right without driving away those who are wrong? Explain.
9. How can the church get better at reaching those who struggle with feelings of same-sex attraction?

The Last Word: Jesus said that marriage is between a man and a woman, and He offered no exceptions. That's the marriage we should affirm and support.