



Sex & Soccer
on Sunday

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When did “gay”
stop meaning
happy?





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- Introduction: The Church and homosexuality
- Two extremes: emphasis on the law, and not suggesting much hope (Mt 23:4) or;
- “blessing the brokenness” and not bringing healing (Jeremiah 2:13)





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- Vision: for the church to be a place where those suffering from the effects of sin in their lives can be saved, healed, and restored to what God has intended them to be (Ephesians 2:10; Matthew 11:28-30)
- We must understand what is going on for those who struggle with same-sex attraction.






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Putting our sexuality in context: What does God intend with our gender?

Genesis 1:26,27

- Gender reflects aspects of His character, and thus is the core of our identity
 - Emphasizes the importance of relationships--how we relate to God and each other
 - The proper relationship between genders is critical for reflecting God's image and for the proper expression of His Kingdom. This is Godly sexuality.
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Healthy Gender formation consists of the following:

- Biology (genetic and hormonal)
- Family of origin (generational dynamics)
- The surrounding culture
- One's reactions to the above





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Sin distorts the proper formation process of our gender and emerging sexuality, leaving us vulnerable in all sorts of ways, one of which is same-sex attraction.

Romans 1:25



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The Role of Parents

- Parents play a huge role in the acquisition of gender identity. Mum and Dad are one's first models of what it means to be male and female. Therefore if my relationships with my parents, especially the one of my gender, maybe broken, my ability to be at peace about my gender is broken.





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The Role of Peers

- Healthy peer relationships are crucial to reinforcing a healthy gender identity. But in a sinful culture, such relationships can also reinforce confusion.





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What is the result of these vulnerabilities?

- Confusion
- Shame
- Isolation and loneliness
- Harsh legalism/self-hatred
- Double Life



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To Those Who Are Struggling

- Jesus saves; Jesus heals; Jesus loves you; Jesus can restore what you did not receive
- Reach out to someone you trust--don't remain alone
- Hear the love of the Father in His Word



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To Those Who Are Struggling

- Pray ask God for His intent for your sexuality.
- Hear the love of the Father in His Word:
 - He wants to give you rest (Mt 11:28-30)
 - He wants to secure your destiny (Eph 2:10)
 - He has made you clean through Christ (I Corinthians 6:9-11)
- “Your real, new self will not come as long as you are looking for it. It will come when you are looking for Him” -- C S Lewis



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If You Know Someone Who Is Struggling

- Pray for them. (James 5:16) Ask the Father for what He wants to communicate to the person. Be a messenger of hope
- Be a friend. Speak the truth in love, but leave accusation to the enemy (Rom 8:1, John 3:17). Form relationships--earn the right to speak truth into someone's life.
- Create safe community, places where people can be free from condemnation, but know compassion

