



# Mariner's **DISCOVERY Church**

*OurMDC.org*  
(925) 354-1096  
1641 Bixler Road,  
Discovery Bay  
California 94505

## ***Program for Sunday, April 28, 2024***

***Please thank JoAnn for leading worship music this morning!***

Welcome, announcements, greetings, and prayer:

- **Good morning and thank you for joining our Worship Service!**
- **PLEASE JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY THIS WED., May 1, at 6 P.M.**  
We will continue in lesson 6 of the series about; "Where is God in the midst of suffering?" A copy of the study is on the back table. We meet at the Green Painted Fellowship House located at 1641 Bixler Road, Discovery Bay, **or ONLINE** with **Zoom**. Please give us your E-mail Address on a Connect Envelope or contact the Church office (925-354-1096) for more information.
- **Attention ALL Ladies** - Mark your calendar for Sat. May 4th, at 9 A.M. for Breakfast at Marina Grill in Discovery Bay.
- **Attention ALL Men** - Mark your calendar for Sat. May 4th, at 9 A.M. for Breakfast at Jalisco's Restaurant in Brentwood.
- If you're interested in becoming a member of MDC or getting baptized, please contact Pastor Larry or a Board Member.
- **Thank you to those who are providing bottles & cans for recycling.** We use the money from that for the Children's Ministry. Contact Gary or Lois for any questions.
- **Please pick up Connect Cards/Envelopes** in the back for offerings, prayer requests and place it in one of the offering boxes. **Please note**, for pledge card donations, please mark your gift "BF" or "Building Fund."
- **Please contact us** for any needs, suggestions, or prayer requests:
  - Pastor Larry Quinnell - PastorLarry@OurMDC.org
  - General Info. - Info@OurMDC.org
  - Prayer requests - PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org

**Celebration of Worship:** *Let It Rain*

*Waymaker*

*Agnus Dei*

**Message:** *If God loves all of us, why does God condemn homosexuals?*

**Celebration of Joy/ Sending Out:** *Unfailing Love*

*The River*

**Close of Worship Service, Fellowship continues**

## Message Notes:

**Friday Devotional: Psalm 14:1a** The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.”

### Questions people ask:



- Easter: What’s the point?
- Isn’t the bible full of myths, mistakes, and contradictions?
- What is truth?
- Does God exist?

### What do we say when there are questions?

- Lean-in to the conversations.
- Welcome legitimate inquiries.
- Be more concerned about maintaining a relationship than proving yourself right.
- Discern the intent of the question.
- Discern the spiritual condition of the questioner.
- If you cannot answer, then promise to do the research, and then get back to the questioner with your response.
- Be mindful of any audience.

### How do we lean-in to the conversation?

- What do they mean by that?
  - They are not usually working from evidence.
- How did they come to that conclusion?
  - They are not usually connecting all of the dots.
- Have you considered an alternative?
  - They usually rule it out with “heard-it-before” cynicism response.
- If Christianity were true, would you become a Christian?
  - Reveals the real issue: Pursuing truth, or pursuing happiness.

### How do we defend the gospel?

The ultimate defense of the gospel is the evidence of your character as evidenced in your life being continually transformed by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

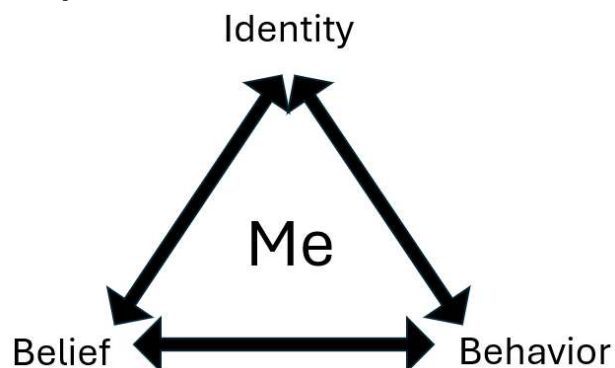
### Thomas Sowell, economist

“If you want to help others, tell them the truth.

If you want to help yourself, tell people what they want to hear.”

**A Question people ask:** If God loves all of us, why does God condemn homosexuals?

### A Question: Identity



## What does the bible say?

- Leviticus 18:1-18
- Do not act like the Egyptians, or the Canaanites.
- Regulations regarding sexual relations. Can't:
  - Blood relatives.
  - Relatives by blood (in-laws).
    - Exception: Levirate marriage, if there are no children.
  - Adultery.
  - Homosexuality.
  - Bestiality.
- They make the land unclean. Spew out inhabitants.
- Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19:1-29).
  - 2 Angels visit Lot while Lot was in Sodom.
  - The men of Sodom surround the house, want the visitors.
  - Lot goes outside and pleads. Barely escapes.
  - Men were struck with blindness and gave up.
  - City was destroyed for its wickedness.
- Men of Gibeah in the country of the Benjamin tribe.
  - Levite with his concubine.
  - Men of Gibeah want the Levite man. Take the woman.
  - Abuse the woman until she dies.
  - Men of Israel respond: Civil war. Men of Gibeah lose.
- Creation intent:
  - Genesis 1:27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
  - Genesis 2:24 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.
- Jesus affirms creation intent:
  - Matthew 19:4-6 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE, and said, 'FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH'?"  
"So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."
- The penalty for breaking the law has been paid by Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:3).
- Romans 1:24-27 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward

one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

### **How do we respond?**

- 1 Co 5:12-13 For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church? But those who are outside, God judges. REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM AMONG YOURSELVES.
- Do not judge those outside the church.
- Appropriately support and judge those within the church.
- Distinguish between the behavior and the person.
  - Temptation is not a sin.
  - Sinful behavior is a sin.
- Be like Jesus. John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of **grace** and **truth**.
- Woman at the well in John 4. Grace and Truth.
- Woman caught in adultery in John 8. Grace and Truth.
- It is not “us” and “them.” It is “we.” We are all broken and born into a hurting world. Therefore, we all have to deal with wrongful desires. It is Jesus Christ, who through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit, that gives us the victory over those wrongful desires.
- Pray. Pray some more. Then pray some more.
- Seek knowledge. Then seek insight. Then seek wisdom.
- Make a distinction between the person (whom God loves, and has made in the image of God), and the behavior.
- Empathize. Find a way to communicate that.
- Tell them that God knows and that God cares.
- Accept the person (Like Jesus with the woman at the well, and like the woman caught in adultery).
- God can and will judge. We cannot.
- Nathan was not self-righteous with David regarding Bathsheba. We ought not be self-righteous.
- Encourage them to seek the truth, beyond their subjective bias.
- Avoid easy solutions.
- If you want to help them, speak the truth with love. If you want to be approved by them, tell them what they want to hear.
- Christians must be beacons of both grace and truth.

**You are not alone. God is with you! MDC wants to help. We are here for you.**

Prayer Request: [PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org](mailto:PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org)

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