

How To Respond When Someone Announces They Are Gay

Sunday AM 06/05/22

Introduction:

June has been declared as “Gay Pride” month. The celebration of people coming out of the closet and homosexuality becoming more main stream. I am sure on numerous occasions a parent, family member, even as a friend, someone has heard the words, “I am gay.” Perhaps a son or daughter has come to that conclusion, in which there are probably two thoughts which comes to mind. How did this happen? What should I do? Should I react with shock and horror, or accept their announcement. We want to look at this from an understanding of what is happening in our culture, and how we as Christians should respond.

I) How Could This Happen?

A) Understanding the cultural influences people are facing.

1. Homosexuality in some circles has been glorified- people willing to be rebellious and think for themselves, giving in to their true feelings and loves, the heart wants what the heart wants.
2. There is what amounts to an effort to recruit people into this lifestyle.

B) Institutions aiding and encouraging people to “transition”

1. Some states are requiring the teaching of LGBTQ History.
2. Schools are doing sexual orientation counseling and hiding it from parents.
 - a. Florida Parents Sue School for Helping Teen “Transition” – Without Their knowledge or Consent.
 - i. Parents of a 13-year-old girl found out three staff members and the girl developed a

“Transgender/Non-Conforming Student Support Plan”

- ii. How did the girl want to be addressed, which bathroom she wanted to use, whether she felt comfortable rooming with boys or girls.
 - iii. They gave her a new name for when she was at school.
 - iv. When the parents asked for their justification for not informing the parents the school said the right to privacy and the child was protected under a non-discrimination law that does not include parental notification or input. **There is not such state law in Florida nor Federal Law to this effect.**
- b. Transgender pioneer criticizes modern trans activists, says they’re indoctrinating kids: This isn’t a game”
- i. Giving puberty blockers to young children could be disastrous
 - ii. There is no mental health counseling, “It is dangerous and its not therapy”
- c. Recently on Fox News there was a story of a young girl being asked to attend a literary club meaning, only to find out it was a sexual orientation meeting. She went home and told her parents, as she was told she was confused about her orientation.
3. Children being exposed to pregnant men memes
4. Recent battle in Florida over the “Parental Rights in Education” bill other wise called “Don’t Say Gay” bill.
- a. The seven-page bill prohibits instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity for students in kindergarten

through 3rd grade. Lessons for students older than 3rd grade have to be “age appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards.”

- b. The bill requires schools to notify parents at the start of every school year about each health-care service offered at school and the option to withhold consent or decline any specific service. Schools must disclose any well-being questionnaires or health-screening forms they plan to administer to students in kindergarten through 3rd grade and seek parent permission before allowing students to respond to these forms. If schools violate any of these requirements, parents can file official complaints with the department of education or lawsuits against the district.

5. Loudoun County school board criticized over school books with sexually explicit material given to young children.

C) Our use of language may cause some to question their sexual orientation.

1. Bromance and girl crush.
2. A man can recognize another man is handsome, a woman can see another woman is pretty without being sexually attracted to them.
3. Not all males are alpha males, some may have a higher voice and sound more feminine
4. Not all females are made the same way as some are tom boys and more rugged.
5. Ironically the society which says to not judge a book by its cover seems to be very quick to tell people they are gay.

II) How Should One Respond When Someone Comes Out of the Closet?

A) First. anything short of acceptance will be interpreted negatively

1. You will be seen as unloving and uncaring, "I thought you would accept me for who and what I am."
2. Not accepting them may be seen as being un-Christ like.
3. Do not be unloving and uncaring.
4. Do not argue about their feelings.

Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?"

B) Keep the emphasis on the Bible, O.T.

1. God made two sexes, male and female.

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

2. In the Law of Moses homosexuality was condemned.

Leviticus 20:13 'If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death. Their blood shall be upon them.

3. It should be noted, God's law not only forbid homosexuality but other sexual relationships.
 - a. Bestiality, fornication and adultery were all condemned.

Leviticus 20:11 'The man who lies with his father's wife has uncovered his father's nakedness; both of them shall surely be put to death. Their blood shall be upon them. 12 'If a man lies with his daughter-in-law, both of them shall surely be put to death. They have committed perversion. Their blood shall be upon them.

4. Marriage is between a man and a woman

Genesis 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

C) Keep the emphasis on the Bible in the New Testament

1. Jesus pointed to God's intention regarding marriage.

Matthew 19:4 *And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' 5 "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'? 6 "So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."*

2. In marriage, the sexual relationship is between husband and wife.

1 Corinthians 7:2 *Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. 3 Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband.*

3. Homosexuality is condemned

Romans 1:26 *For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. 27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.*

- a. At this time homosexuality was widespread in Roman society.
 - b. Young children were used in homosexual activities.
4. God's law clearly forbid such activities.

1 Corinthians 6:9 *Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.*

5. Different sins are attractive to different people- pornography, drugs, lying, etc.

6. Such does not make the sin right just because you are attracted to it.

1 John 3:4 *Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.*

- a. What does the law of God say on this matter?
- b. Sin can be deceptive, enticing, and offer pleasure.

Hebrews 11:25 *choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,*

7. But that does not make sin right in the sight of God.

D) Keep in mind their feelings do not make something right.

1. The problem with idolatry was not sure to their feelings but it denies God as our God.
2. The problem with incest, bestiality, murder, lying, etc. is not due to the feelings of those involved but they are against God's law.

E) The result of sin is death

Romans 6:16 *Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?*

1. God's law does not change to accommodate society.
2. Sin will ultimately cause the sinner to be lost for eternity.
3. In order to go to heaven one must obey the Gospel of Christ, live a life of righteousness, and be willing to repent when sin enters their life.

1 John 1:5 *This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one*

another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.