

**BERING DRIVE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Annotated Bibliography on Same-Sex Relationships and Marriage**  
Spring 2016

**Books Available in the Church Library for Checkout**

DeYoung, Kevin. *What Does the Bible Really Teach About Homosexuality?* Crossway, 2015.

Kevin DeYoung challenges each of us—the skeptic and the seeker, the certain and the confused—to take a humble look at God’s Word regarding the issue of homosexuality.

After examining key biblical passages in both the Old and New Testaments and the Bible’s overarching teaching regarding sexuality, DeYoung responds to popular objections raised by Christians and non-Christians alike, making this an indispensable resource for thinking through one of the most pressing issues of our day.

Gary, Sally. *Loves God, Likes Girls: A Memoir.* Leafwood Publishers, 2013.

*Loves God Likes Girls* simply explores one woman's perspective on the multitude of experiences over a lifetime that impact the development of sexuality. Sally Gary's story offers hope and redemption for families torn apart by this issue.

Grenz, Stanley J. *Welcoming But Not Affirming: An Evangelical Response to Homosexuality.* Westminster John Knox Press, 1998.

In this carefully reasoned and thoroughly researched analysis, Stanley Grenz asks: are same-sex relationships a viable, God-given way of giving expression to our sexuality? He reviews scientific research, the history of Christian teaching on homosexuality, the issue of biblical authority today, and the practical issues the church now faces, such as the blessing of same-sex unions, the ordination of homosexuals, and the church's public stance on gay rights issues.

Lee, Justin. *Torn: Rescuing the Gospel from the Gays vs. Christians Debate.* Jericho Books, 2013.

In this groundbreaking book, Lee recalls the events--his coming out to his parents, his experiences with the "ex-gay" movement, and his in-depth study of the Bible--that led him, eventually, to self-acceptance.

Morrison, David. *Beyond Gay. Our Sunday Visitor*, 1999.

David Morrison shares candidly of his own journey from gay activist to chaste Catholic. He offers realistic hope for those with unwanted same sex attractions.

This book shows a faith that goes beyond doctrine and into the heartfelt experience of the grace of God.

Via, Dan O. and Robert A.J. Gagnon. *Homosexuality and the Bible: Two Views*. Fortress Press, 2009.

In this brief book, two New Testament scholars discuss the relevant biblical texts on the subject of homosexual behavior and orientation. Discussing both Old Testament and New Testament texts, each author also raises important interpretive and moral questions and then offers a response to the other's main assertions.

Vines, Matthew. *God and the Gay Christian: The Biblical Case in Support of Same-Sex Relationships*. Convergent Books, 2014

- Do biblical teachings on the marriage covenant preclude same-sex marriage or not?
  - How should we apply the teachings of Jesus to the gay debate?
  - Can celibacy be a calling when it is mandated, not chosen?
  - What did Paul have in mind when he warned against same-sex relations?
- Unique in its affirmation of both an orthodox faith and sexual diversity, *God and the Gay Christian* has sparked heated debate, sincere soul searching, and widespread cultural change on the issue of what it means to be a faithful gay Christian.

Wilson, Ken. *A Letter to My Congregation: An Evangelical Pastor's Path to Embracing People Who Are Gay, Lesbian and Transgender Into the Company of Jesus*. David Crum Media, 2014.

Wilson shows how God has led him on a journey toward a rethinking of what the fully authoritative and inspired Bible ought to be taken to mean in the life of the church today.

### **Video Resources**

Achtemeier, Mark. *And Grace Will Lead Me Home: Inclusion and Evangelical Conscience*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mc9aTDZjLjw>

DeYoung, Kevin. *What Does the Bible Really Teach About Homosexuality?* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yy2NQdSdrrI>

Gagnon, Robert and Daniel Kirk. *Homosexuality and the Church Debate: Dr. Robert Gagnon vs. Dr. Daniel Kirk*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-Y1WpXmfso>

Vines, Matthew. *The Bible and Homosexuality*.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ezQjNJUSraY>

Witherington, Ben III. *Homosexuality & Scripture*.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HMHXH\\_xERL8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HMHXH_xERL8)

### **Other Resources**

Achtemeier, Mark. *The Bible's Yes to Same-Sex Marriage: An Evangelical Pastor's Change of Heart*. Second Edition. Westminster John Knox Press, 2015.

In the early 2000's, Mark Achtemeier embarked on a personal journey with the Bible that led him from being a conservative, evangelical opponent of gay rights to an outspoken activist for gay marriage and a fully inclusive church. Achtemeier shows how a careful reading of the whole Scripture reveals God's good news about love, marriage, and sexuality for gay and straight people alike.

Brownson, James V. *Bible, Gender, Sexuality: Reframing the Church's Debate on Same-Sex Relationships*. Eerdmans, 2013.

This thought-provoking book by James Brownson develops a broad, cross-cultural sexual ethic from Scripture, locates current debates over homosexuality in that wider context, and explores why the Bible speaks the way it does about same-sex relationships.

Gagnon, Robert A.J. *The Bible and Homosexual Practice: Texts and Hermeneutics*. Abingdon, 2002.

Gagnon offers the most thorough analysis to date of the biblical texts relating to homosexuality. He demonstrates why attempts to classify the Bible's rejection of same-sex intercourse as irrelevant for our contemporary context fail to do justice to the biblical texts and to current scientific data. Gagnon's book powerfully challenges attempts to identify love and inclusivity with affirmation of homosexual practice.

Hays, Richard B. *The Moral Vision of the New Testament: A Contemporary Introduction to New Testament Ethics*. Chapter 16: Homosexuality. HarperSanFrancisco, 1996.

A leading expert in New Testament ethics discovers in the biblical witness a unified ethical vision -- centered in the themes of community, cross and new creation -- that has profound relevance in today's world. Richard Hays shows how the New Testament provides moral guidance on the most troubling ethical issues of our time, including violence, divorce, homosexuality and abortion.

John Paul II. *Man and Woman He Created Them: A Theology of the Body*. Pauline Books & Media, 2006.

A new critical translation of Pope John Paul II's talks on the Theology of the Body by the internationally renowned biblical scholar Michael Waldstein. With meticulous scholarship and profound insight, Waldstein presents John Paul II's magnificent vision of the human person.

Kirk, J.R. Daniel. *Jesus Have I Loved, But Paul?: A Narrative Approach to the Problem of Pauline Christianity*. Chapter 9: Homosexuality Under the Reign of Christ. Baker Academic, 2012.

Provides a fresh engagement of the debated relationship between Paul's writings and the portrait of Jesus contained in the Gospels.

Lee, Patrick, and Robert P. George. *Conjugal Union: What Marriage is and Why it Matters*. Cambridge University Press, 2014.

This book defends the conjugal view of marriage. Patrick Lee and Robert P. George argue that marriage is a distinctive type of community: the union of a man and a woman who have committed to sharing their lives on every level of their beings (bodily, emotionally, and spiritually) in the kind of union that would be fulfilled by conceiving and rearing children together.

Myers, David G. and Letha Dawson Scanzoni. *What God Has Joined Together: The Christian Case for Gay Marriage*. HarperOne, 2006.

Gay marriage has become the most important domestic social issue facing twenty-first-century Americans -- particularly Americans of faith. Most Christians are pro-marriage and hold traditional family values, but should they endorse extending marriage rights to gays and lesbians? If Jesus enjoined us to love our neighbors as ourselves, and the homosexual is our neighbor, does that mean we should accept and bless gay marriages?

Obergefell v. Hodges, [http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/14pdf/14-556\\_3204.pdf](http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/14pdf/14-556_3204.pdf).

Obergefell v. Hodges, 576 U.S. \_\_\_ (2015), is a landmark United States Supreme Court case in which the Court held in a 5–4 decision that the fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same-sex couples by both the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Schmidt, Thomas E. *Straight & Narrow? Compassion & Clarity in the Homosexuality Debate*. IVP Academic, 1995.

Too often, Thomas Schmidt writes, the charged battle over homosexuality generates slogans and accusations--obscuring the struggling persons at the center of the argument. In this book Schmidt brings the discussion back into empathetic contact with the circumstances and the choices of individuals.

Scroggs, Robin. *The New Testament and Homosexuality: Contextual Background for Contemporary Debate*. Augsburg Fortress Publishing, 1984.

This is an excellent book for anyone curious about the Scriptural basis (used by both sides) in Christian debates over the morality of homosexual acts. It is short (150 pages) and very readable.