

## The Bible and Homosexuality (continued)

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- 1 Timothy 1:10
  - Homosexuality is explicitly Against God's Law
  - *"The Law is a mirror that shows us our sin, but it is not a ladder by which we can climb up to heaven."* - Martin Luther
  - *"The principal point of the Law is to make men not better but worse, as it shows them their sin, so that by the recognition of sin they may be humbled, terrified, bruised and broken."* - Martin Luther

## Distinguishing Terms

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- Same-Sex Attraction
- Homosexual Behavior
- Gay Identity
  - *"Gay Identity occurs when an individual who experiences SSA travels down a path that leads him or her to an "I am" statement. Where SSA is about "what I feel," Gay Identity is about "who I am."* Brad Hambrick

## Sexual Attraction

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- Is there a category of non-sinful, sexual attraction that can exist outside of marriage?
- SSA as a form of Suffering
- James 1:14 Progression: Desire -> Temptation -> Sin -> Death
- Same-Sex Attraction is a form of suffering that becomes the primary context for same-sex temptation.
- Distinguishing between sexual, friendship, and romantic desires

Distinguishing Terms	Role of the Will	Accountability
Same-Sex Attraction	Not Chosen	Suffering/Temptation
Same-Sex Desire/Lust	Chosen	Sin
Homosexual Behavior	Chosen	Sin
Gay Identity	Chosen	"Mortal Sin"

## Rethinking Orientation

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### Orientation according to the APA:

- *"Sexual orientation refers to an enduring pattern of emotional, romantic, and/or sexual attractions to men, women, or both sexes. Sexual orientation also refers to a person's identity based on those attractions, related behaviors, and membership in a community of others who share those attractions."*

## Truths to Hold In Tension

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1. Christians are to be truth-tellers
2. How we speak matters
3. The Bible calls us to expose darkness
4. Live on mission
5. Pay attention to conscience

**Key Principle:** Seek to distinguish between *loving* behavior vs. *affirming* behavior.

## Practical Questions

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- Should christians attend Same-Sex Wedding wedding?
- How do I respond to my gay family member or loved one?
- Should I have gay people into my home?
- How do you share the gospel with a gay person?
- What should I do if someone comes out to me?