

## Session 5: A Christian Response in This Cultural Moment

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### The Pressure –

1. Start with \_\_\_\_\_.

“Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.”  
Matthew 7:3-5

- Are you seeing your own \_\_\_\_\_?
- Are you daily feeding on God’s grace?
- Are you seeing yourself and others through gospel eyes?
- Are you crying out for the \_\_\_\_\_?

“And my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”

1 Corinthians 2:4-5

2. See LGBTQ as \_\_\_\_\_.

Lisa Diamond –

“Your sexual orientation doesn’t necessarily circumscribe the patterns of attractions you might experience.”

Lisa Diamond

**What does this mean?**

- Our capacity to experience a wide range of \_\_\_\_\_ is much larger than we might realize.

“Strong desires/emotions beg to interpret our world for us. They do this in a way where satisfaction of those desires does not affect our consciences.”

Ed Welch

“to show perfect courtesy toward all people. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures.... But when the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy.”

Titus 3:2-5

3. Know and \_\_\_\_\_.

“They think that the mainstream news is full of lies and garbage, but when it comes from an independent person, that must be more realistic or something, more authentic in some way. So when you see somebody [on Tumblr] talking about their experience and their opinions, that can trump data and facts, because experience is more authentic than data or something.”

Formerly Trans

“Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality.”

1 Corinthians 6:9

“men who practice homosexuality”

“oute malakoi, oute arsenokoitai”

4. Refuse to \_\_\_\_\_.

“Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

“What I most want to avoid is any other identity that might attempt to displace my fundamental identity as a Christian. Because the thing that defines me most in life is not my sexuality but my status – in Christ – as a son of God.”

Ed Shaw, pastor who faces same sex attraction

“Obedience is supposed to be costly .... But in the Western world, lulled by freedom of religion and unprecedented opulence, we so easily lose sight of what words like *suffering* really mean ....”

Gregory Coles

5. Embrace a \_\_\_\_\_.

The Bible's view of gender is remarkably \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

“To have your feelings sharply out of accord with your body is a life-dominating grief. As Christians, we of all people should be able to show understanding and compassion, knowing how the fall (Genesis 3), has twisted what God pronounced, ‘good’ when he made humanity into a binary-gendered reflection of his nature.”

Tim and Kathy Keller

6. Learn to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ our LGBTQ friends.

- Listen to -

“If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame.”

Proverbs 18:13

- Lament for -

“My eyes will flow without ceasing,  
without respite,  
until the LORD from heaven  
looks down and sees;  
my eyes cause me grief  
at the fate of all the daughters of my city.”

Lamentations 3:49-51

- Love -

“Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend;  
profuse are the kisses of an enemy.”

Proverbs 27:5-6

7. Develop \_\_\_\_\_.

“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.”

John 15:13