

- to fit homosexuals' lifestyle is a novel idea, but those of us whom believe in the inspiration and inerrancy of Scripture, reject and are not persuaded by their attempts.
8. We believe through discipleship, homosexuals can and must: recognize God's forgiveness, understand the need to and desire for change in lifestyle and develop correct healthy male/female relationships.
  9. We further believe, the church collectively has a responsibility toward homosexuals and must find creative and effective ways of reaching out to those caught in the bondage of homosexuality. (Rom. 6:22, NIV)
  10. We believe, by God's grace that our motives, words and deeds will be gentle and respectful as we seek God's faithfulness in this issue more than victory.

### Notes

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**Apologetic Response:** a position paper with a biblical stand on the challenging issues of our day. Our goal is biblical accountability, equipping and to encourage Christians to impact, influence and engage the culture for the cause of Christ for time and eternity. *"But in your heart set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect" 1 Peter 3:15, NIV).*

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**APologetic Response**



## “The Homosexual Agenda”

*An apologetic  
 response representing  
 the official position  
 of Equipping  
 the Saints For  
 Outreach Coalition*

**A Position Paper  
 prepared by the  
 ESOC Ethics Group**

### Summary

Equipping the Saints for Outreach Coalition (ESOC) concurs and affirms the fact that all humans are born with an inclination toward sin in various manifestations, including that of homosexuality. Furthermore, that there are certain conditional/environmental factors that may *predispose* one toward homosexuality is a given. However there is absolutely no scientific evidence of genetic or hormonal causes for it. We deny that one must act in compliance with such sinful passions, or that such a condition is intended by and/or acceptable to God. We also, affirm that homosexuality is unnatural to mankind's basic nature, and the practice is a learned behavior in an attempt to nullify the painful affects of sin apart from the only true solution, Jesus Christ.

ESOC seeks to remain faithful to the biblical view of homosexuality. Homosexuality is absolutely and unequivocally prohibited and condemned by Scripture. But there is hope. Through acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord one will be empowered to overcome the bondage of sexual sin (*hetero- or homo- sexual*). As with all sin, one who repents from homosexuality may experience tremendous temptation in the growth process. Nonetheless, the only biblical solution is that of constant confession before God, resist temptation, and persevere in righteousness. We hope to strengthen the church corporately to effectively reach out to those caught in the bondage of homosexuality and give them truth in love.

The purpose of this paper is simply for biblical accountability, equipping and to encourage Christians to always be ready to speak up and tell anyone who asks what we believe and why we believe it, yet do it with gentleness and respect that results from well articulated reasoning.

## What is Homosexuality?

There are various terms used to describe “homosexuality,” gay, queer, alternative lifestyle, etc. Until recently terms in and outside of the bible described “homosexuality” as sodomy, unnatural acts, going after strange flesh, sexual perversion and sexually abnormality. However, regardless of the language used, homosexuality/lesbianism is a person who is sexually attracted to and/or active with another person of the same gender.

## The Homosexual Movement

Within the last thirty years or so, we have heard a lot about homosexuals and the advancement of their agenda in the family, politics and religion. Many homosexuals are “coming out of their closets,” and demanding their lifestyles be recognized as normal. They’re moving from the margins of society to the mainstream and even argue that their lifestyle is compatible with Scripture. In humanistic circles, homosexuality is now viewed as an alternate lifestyle, not as a sin or sexual perversion. However to dumb down or change the way you communicate this practice, does not change truth or reality. This kind of subtle and cloaked communication is the primary tool of the homosexual movement.

Homosexual couples are demanding to be recognized as “families” with the right to marry (same sex marriages/civil unions) and adopt children. Thereby, undermining the God ordained institution of the family, which is the foundation and strength of all societies.

On the political front, homosexual lobbyist have repealed sodomy laws; received fair hiring practices by many large corporations and are demanding their rights to equal protection under the law as “other” minorities. Radical homosexual groups have pressured the American Psychiatric Association (APA) to remove homosexuality from their list of psychiatric disorders—sexual abnormality.

Additionally, homosexuals have made bold steps in the arena of religion—to be more accepted as equals in many churches, the ordination of homosexuals as ministers, scholarly (unsuccessful) attempts to re-interpret the biblical teaching on homosexuality and they have even formed their own churches.

Finally, through public debate, law, public policy and media, the homosexual movement has promoted itself in and force itself upon our families, schools, government, businesses and churches—an aggressive strategy! As with other social issues, these facts make it necessary for the true church to face the assertive and strategic agenda of the homosexual movement.

## Scripture and Homosexuality

Simply put, humankind is created to find human completion only in the (marital) union of opposite sexes—male and female created in the image and likeness of God. There are no conceivable conditions in which this union can occur fully, without sexual differentiation. Same-gender partners can at best *pretend* a differentiation that is physically (and perhaps psychologically) impossible.

Homosexuality is a violation of the natural order God designed for human sexuality. It is the supreme assault on God’s first scriptural command to mankind, be fruitful and multiply (Genesis 1:28). This is precisely why in various passages the Bible refers to homosexual relations as unnatural. Besides the fact that God’s word clearly condemns homosexuality as a sin in both the Old and New Testament, homo sexuality is both illogical and unproductive.

*Gen. 1:27; 2:18ff; 19:1-11 (see Jude 7, 2 Peter 16-9 as a commentary on Gen. 19); Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Rom. 1:26-27; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; 1 Tim.1:8-10*

## Our Position

Equipping the Saints for Outreach Coalition (ESOC) is a coalition of outreach ministers and pastors committed “To influence the culture with God’s intentions for time and eternity.” We understand that in today’s climate (where homophobia is the popular buzz word) if one publicly opposes homosexuality, one risks ridicule and/or censorship from the liberal media and by cultural elites—even if one does so with reason, humility and mercy. ESOC however, takes a non-negotiable stance against the “Homosexual Agenda,” with a view toward reaching homosexuals for Christ.

The following principles guide our path:

1. We believe homosexuality is a sin,
2. prohibited and condemned by Scripture before a holy and just God,
3. contrary to the clear teaching of the Bible and
4. like all other sexual sins (fornication, adultery, bestiality, bisexuality) represents an attempt by mankind to pull away from God’s ordained intention.
5. We believe homosexual behavior is one of the most difficult perversions to overcome. But there is help and hope!
6. We believe homosexuals (like any other sinner) need, first of all, a changed inner nature that can come only from repentance for sins and acceptance of salvation through the finished work of Jesus Christ. Ultimately, it is Christ’s loving act of redemption that can free someone bound by the chains of sexual sin (heterosexual or homosexual).
7. We believe, the scholarly attempts to re-interpret/alter the Scriptures