

What the Bible Really Says about same-sex marriage: Hard Questions Honest Answers.

Good morning. I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

My name is Douglas, and I have the privilege of serving as the Lead Pastor here at Bridge Fellowship Church. I'm glad we're able to gather together in worship today.

We are in week 3 of our *Hard Questions, Honest Answers* sermon series.

In week 1, we looked at biblical marriage and its purpose.

Last week, we addressed divorce and remarriage, setting the record straight on when we are permitted to break our marriage covenant and start a new one.

This week, we turn our attention to the question of who should marry — specifically:

What the Bible Really Says About Same-Sex Marriage.

We're living in a cultural moment unlike anything the church has faced in recent history.

Not since the days of slavery and Jim Crow have we seen this kind of full-scale assault on God's truth and the moral foundation of our nation.

And right at the center of it — is same sex marriage.

For many it's personal, for others it's confusing, for others it's easier to stay silent. But silence isn't love. Compromise isn't compassion. Indifference isn't righteousness.

If we believe God's Word — and love people the way God does — we have to speak. We have to live differently than the world.

We're not coming to this topic with hate or superiority.

We come with open Bibles, broken hearts, open arms, and a desire to see people restored back to God.

And so, if you're ready to hear truth—not man's truth, but God's truth—open your Bible with me to [Genesis 1](#). Need a Bible? Sermon notes?

Let's start with some some fundamental truths regarding same-sex-marriage, beginning with...

1. Same-sex marriage rejects God's design.

Let's read ([Gen 1:27](#)) ...

“God created man in his own image; he created him in the image of God; he created them male and female.”

Two sexes—distinct, equal, and complementary.

And the reason for two distinct sex is found in [Genesis 2:18](#), God says:

“...It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper corresponding to him.”

God didn't give Adam another man. He gave him Eve — equal in value, opposite in design, perfectly suited for oneness.

And in [Genesis 2:24](#), God ties it together saying:

“24 This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh. 25 Both the man and his wife were naked, yet felt no shame.”

Only two people—**male and female**—can become “one flesh”.

This is more than sex or sharing a home.

It's a whole-life union—**body, mind, and spirit.**

Two people joined so deeply—that they move as one.

Only two people who share the same image but are opposite by design can experience the oneness of marriage.

Two men or two women — who are the same in sex, design, and function —cannot become what God designed marriage to be.

You cannot reflect God's design for marriage — while rejecting the design itself.

That would be like trying to rewrite the DNA of marriage — but still expecting life to come from it. God already wrote the code — male and female, united as one in covenant.

You can't alter the design and still expect His blessing.

At best —

same-sex couples can only mimic what God designed.

They smile for the cameras...

post the pictures...

try to convince the world — and themselves — that everything's fine.

But behind the smiles, behind the filters, behind the applause, behind the activism —there's still an emptiness no amount of cultural affirmation can fill.

Because when you build your marriage according to your design — **you may feel happiness for a moment — but you will never know true joy and fulfillment that is only found in Biblical marriage.**

So, ssm rejects God's design... that's no.1...2nd..

2. Same-sex marriage embraces sin.

Church — we're not just talking about two people who love each other.

We're talking about sexual activity that the God himself calls sin.

Let me show you — not my opinion — but what **Scripture** actually says:

- In [Genesis 19](#) and [Jude 7](#), same-sex acts are called “immoral,” “unnatural,” and “worthy of judgment.”
- In [Leviticus 18:22](#) and [20:13](#), homosexual behavior is called an “abomination” before the Lord.
- In [1 Corinthians 6:9–10](#), Paul writes that those who practice homosexuality—along with drunkards, idolaters, and the sexually immoral—will not inherit the kingdom of God.
- In [1 Timothy 1:8–11](#), it's listed among the behavior of the lawless, ungodly, and profane.

There's no getting around it.

Homosexuality is clearly, repeatedly, and consistently called sin in God's Word.

And if anyone still has doubts or is looking for a loophole.

Paul makes it even clearer in [Romans 1:26–27](#), where he says...

“26 For this reason God delivered them over to disgraceful passions. Their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. 27 The men in the same way also left natural relations with women and were inflamed in their lust for one another. Men committed shameless acts with men and received in their own persons the appropriate penalty of their error. “

Did you catch that?

Homosexual activity is described as:

- **Disgraceful passions** (v.26) — passions that are shameful before God.
- **Unnatural** (v.26) — a complete reversal of God’s design.
- **Leaving natural relations** (v.27) — rejecting God’s created order.
- **Inflamed with lust** (v.27) — driven by uncontrolled desire. (No different than animals during mating season)
- **Shameless acts** (v.27) — open rebellion without shame.
- **Receiving the due penalty for their error** (v.27) — consequences that are both spiritual and physical.

Unless sin has completely blinded you — and sexual is especially good at doing that — it’s impossible to read this passage, or any like it, and still believe God approves of same-sex relationships.

Loved ones—this is not about feelings. It’s about truth.

Same-sex “marriage” isn’t some alternative version of marriage.

It’s a direct rejection of the only one God designed and graciously gave us.

And if we stay silent—

if we shrug and call it “love” just because the couple looks happy—we’re not being loving. We’re being complicit.

Just look around.

Our silence has opened the door for culture to:

Redefine truth.

Reshape morality.

And normalize what God calls sin.

Same-sex marriage has been legal in North Carolina since Obergefell v. Hodges in 2015.

And now it’s baked into our:

Educational systems.

Corporate policies.

Public laws.

Just this year — right here in Wake County —

school curriculums have been updated again —

mandating gender identity and same-sex relationships be taught to elementary kids.

And under the Respect for Marriage Act passed in 2022 —

any pastor, school, or nonprofit that speaks against same-sex marriage could soon face legal pressure — or lose tax-exempt status.

It’s one more weapon to force Christians to either deny the truth — or embrace the lie.

All for the purpose of deceiving more people into sin.

To say that we can’t afford to settle is the understatement of the century.

Because souls are at stake.

Because truth is being traded for lies.

Because God’s design is being mocked — openly and proudly.

And because every time the church stays silent, the enemy advances.

This isn’t the time for us to play it safe. We’ve been doing that... for far too long here in America.

This is our time to stand.

We’re not here to pick a fight.

But we won’t backdown from one either.

We don't speak because we hate people — we speak because sin is destroying people.
We speak because the Judge of heaven has already spoken — and His Word hasn't changed.

Same-sex marriage isn't an alternative.

It's a rejection.

A rejection of the very God who made them —
and the Word is clear those who do “will not inherit God's kingdom” ([1Cor 6:9-10](#)).

Woe to them. Woe to them.

Same-sex marriage is wrong b/c it embraces sin. That's our 2nd foundational truth... Third... Same-sex marriage is ...

3. Medically risky and physically destructive.

Because when you step outside of God's design, you don't just break His law — **you break yourself.**

And I'm saying this for shock value.

We have both the Bible... and hard medical data to back it up.

Paul says it clearly in [Romans 1:27](#):

“The men left natural relations with women and were inflamed in their lust for one another.
Men committed shameless acts with men
and received in their own persons the appropriate penalty of their error.”

Did you catch that?

Paul isn't just talking about spiritual consequences.

He's talking about physical consequences.

Their bodies paid the price for their sin.

In other words —

There's no such thing as safe sex when it comes to same-sex.

You cannot reject God's design...

and avoid the damage that comes with it.

And we have empirical medical data to prove it:

According to the **(CDC)** in 2024:

- Men who have sex with men account for 67% of all new HIV cases in the U.S., while representing less than 2% of the population.
- Although anal cancer is one of the rarest forms of cancer overall, it is significantly higher among men who have sex with men — especially those who are already HIV-positive.
- HIV, hepatitis, and other STD's & STI sare drastically more common in same-sex relationships — whether “married” or not.

Some argue that monogamy makes it okay—but it doesn't. The issue isn't how faithful the couple is to the relationship, it's what they're doing to each other.

The physical acts themselves are harmful.

Even the **FDA**—as of 2025—still applies **special screening protocols for blood donations from men who have sex with men**, because the risk of infectious disease transmission remains elevated.

That's not discrimination.

That's science.

And how does the SS community — and our world — respond?

Instead of admitting that, even from a medical standpoint, people should refrain from SS relations — because they're inflamed with lust — they create ways to *manage* the damage.

That's where drugs like **Truvada** and **Descovy** come in.

You've seen the commercials — these drugs are marketed to SS couples to protect the healthy partner from getting HIV.

Think about that.

You are knowingly putting yourself at risk for HIV/AIDS — and the solution is not to stop, but to take a drug so you can keep doing it.

What kind of sense does that make?

Sexual sin doesn't discriminate—and neither do its consequences.

[That our 3rd truth... no.4 SS marriages...](#)

4. Causes Emotional and Psychological harm.

The lie says:

“If we just legalize it...

If we just affirm it...

If we just normalize it...

then the pain will go away, and everyone will be happy.”

But loved ones — the pain isn't going away.

Because sin doesn't heal brokenness — it multiplies it.

And even where same-sex marriage is fully legal, fully celebrated, and fully protected like in Raleigh— the emotional and mental toll remains devastating.

According to a 2024 study by the National Institutes of Health:

- Individuals in same-sex relationships experience **twice the rate of depression and anxiety** compared to heterosexual couples.
- They're over 20 times more likely to be hurt, abused, or assaulted by their lover.
- And they face **substantially higher rates of suicidal ideation** — even in states and cities where same-sex marriage is fully accepted and celebrated.

Did you catch that?

Even when culture removes the stigma — the emotional pain remains.

Because this isn't about social acceptance — this is about living outside of God's design.

You cannot override the conscience God wired into every human soul.

You can numb it. You can ignore it. You can deny it.

But you cannot override it.

And when you try, all kinds of mental and emotional problems follow.

That's exactly what we're seeing — people trying to override God's design and conscience, and as a result, breaking down mentally.

This isn't just data. These are real people. Trapped in a lie that's destroying them from the inside out..

[SS-M cause emotional and physiological harm.... that's no4... 5th... SS-M...](#)

5. Doesn't just affect two people — it weakens society as a whole.

People say,
"What's the big deal?
Let them love who they want.
It's not hurting anyone."

But that's not true.
Because sin never stays private.
When a nation legalizes what God calls sin, the fallout always spills into public life.

And the fallout shows up in 5 primary ways:

1. It destabilizes childhood development.

We are raising the most emotionally anxious, sexually confused generation in American history—and it's no accident.

Our children are being told they don't need both a mom and a dad.
But they do.

- Boys need fathers to show them strength and restraint.
- Girls need mothers to model empathy and resilience.
- And both need the contrast that only God-designed, two gendered parenting provides.

But when two moms or two dads replace God's design, children suffer.

2. It weakens the meaning of marriage for everyone.

When everything becomes marriage — nothing is marriage.
Marriage was never meant to be self-expression — it was created by God as covenant:
One man. One woman. One flesh. One lifetime.

But when same-sex unions are celebrated and legalized, marriage itself collapses into whatever feels good.

Same-sex unions have drastically higher breakup rates:

- Male same-sex partnerships last on average 18 months.
- Lesbian couples divorce nearly twice as often as heterosexual women.
- Even in countries like Sweden and Canada — where it's long been legal — instability keeps growing.

3. It burdens society with the cost of rebellion.

When you legalize sin — you also legalize the consequences.
HIV and other sexual diseases continue to drive massive healthcare costs.
The financial weight gets passed on to health insurance providers, employers, government programs, and ultimately to us taxpayers.

Sin always carries a price tag — and society keeps picking up the bill.

4. It rewires cultural morality.

Now that same-sex *marriage* has been codified into law —
like a virus, it's been rewriting the moral code of our nation.

- What used to be called mental illness — is now called sexual preference.
- What used to be called sin is now called progress.

- What used to be hidden is now paraded.

Here's a few examples:

Streaming platforms pump LGBTQ content into our homes.

Preschool shows like Blue's Clues and Sesame Street normalize same-sex couples and gender identity to toddlers.

Retailers sell "tuck-friendly" swimsuits and other clothing for children.

The federal government fully supports it, or should I say used to support it. The Biden administration declared transgender rights a civil rights issue and has embedded LGBTQ ideology into nearly every federal department.

Thankfully, our currently administration is working to reverse those wrongs.

Hollywood is having a field day. In 2023, nearly 30% of leading characters in scripted tv shows were LGBTQ — that's the highest ever recorded.

Disney — the world's second largest entertainment company — has producers openly admitting they are advancing a "not-at-all-secret gay agenda" to insert queerness wherever they can.

What's happening right now... goes far beyond tolerance and acceptance.

This is cultural reprogramming — on a massive scale.

5. It overrides the voice of parents.

Now that marriage has been redefined, parents are losing their God-given role to parent their children.

Just ask the parents in Montgomery County, Maryland:

- who objected LGBTQ-themed books like *Prince and Knight* and *Uncle Bobby's Wedding* being introduced in elementary schools — books that openly promote same-sex relationships to young children.

slide of book

- At first, parents could opt their children out.
- But in 2022, that right was stripped away.
- The court ruled **"Your children belong to the state during school hours — not to you."**

And this fight is now headed to the Supreme Court.

This is not freedom- that's forced compliance.

So what does all of this mean?

Sin always costs more than what people think.

Whether it's pornography, adultery, or same-sex marriage — when rebellion becomes law, it spreads like wildfire.

And the more it spreads, the more it tears apart the moral foundation of society.

The theologian **Francis Schaeffer** once said:

"If there is no absolute moral standard, then one cannot say in a final sense that anything is right or wrong... All you're left with is conflicting opinions."

IOW

When you throw out God's standard, right and wrong become whatever people feel in the moment.

There's no truth.

Just opinions.

And when all you have is opinions — anything goes and with it goes society.

SSM affects everyone... weakening society as a whole that no.5... no.6 SSM

6. Was never the end goal — it was the gateway.

And now that gate is open—**there's no telling what will come through next.**

In 2025, we're watching marriage lose all definition — not just in theory, but in law, media, and education.

If love is the only requirement, then why stop at two people?

Why not four? Why not your AI chatbot? Why not your dog? Why not yourself?

And we're already there:

- In Japan, a woman married herself.
- In 2024, Alicia Framis married an AI-generated hologram.
- In Sweden, a throuple (that's three consenting adults in marriage) was recognized for joint parental rights.
- In 2021, a man married his sex doll.
- In the UK, a woman married her dog.

And I could keep going — but every example only gets more twisted, more perverse, and more heartbreaking.

This is what happens when you erase God's design for marriage and design it according to human desire.

When feelings replace truth — you don't get freedom — **you get delusion.**

A nation drunk on depravity...

A people neck-deep in sin...

Standing to on the precipice God's judgment and self-annihilation.

That's where the world is headed.

Loved ones, I need you to see this "same-sex marriage" thing for what it really is.

This isn't just politics. This isn't just about same-sex couples getting legal recognition.

This is a full-scale demonic assault on God's design, His truth, and the very souls of men and women made in His image.

The line has been drawn.

Neutrality is surrender. Silence is agreement.

So here's the question we can't avoid:

What will the Church — the blood-bought Bride of Christ — what is she going to do?

More specifically... Where does BFC go from here?

We need to:

① Hate the sin — but show compassion to the sinner.

We don't respond with disgust — we respond with grief.

Sin breaks people. Jesus came to restore what sin ruins.

We reject the lifestyle — but reach for the person.

With truth. With prayer. With hope.

2 Speak truth — clearly and publicly.

Now's not the time to be vague or silent.

We don't speak to shame — we speak to warn.

Sin promises freedom but always delivers death.

Truth spoken in love is still love.

3 Love people — without affirming sin.

Love doesn't mean endorsement.

Jesus loved people without ever compromising truth.

The most unloving thing we could do is stay silent while people walk into judgment.

4 Equip the next generation — before the world does.

TikTok is discipling your kids. So is Disney+. So is Wake County Schools.

They're being told: "All love is equal." "Truth is what you feel." "Gender is fluid."

Parents — don't wait. Pastor your home.

Start the conversations. Ground your kids in God's design.

5 Confess our part—if you've been silent, complicit, or dismissive.

Sometimes — **The loudest approval comes through our silence.**

Sometimes compromise doesn't look like waving a pride flag —

It looks like avoiding hard conversations.

It looks like staying quiet at work.

It sounds like: "You do you... and I'll do me."

If you've laughed at the jokes...

If you've binged entire episodes and seasons...

If you've stayed silent — to keep the peace...

If you've shrugged off truth — because it was uncomfortable to share...

If you've lashed out in anger — mocking and ridiculing...

Then confess it. Own your wrong. & Repent.

God's not looking for a perfect church —

He's looking for a repentant one.

And revival —

It won't start with "those people out there."

Until it starts with us people — right in here.

6 Plant both feet on the Rock — and don't move.

Culture may call us outdated. Courts may call us discriminatory.

Social media may call us hateful and intolerant.

God calls us faithful.

Let's be that church:

Unmoved. Unashamed. Uncompromising. Resolved to stand.

7 Know your enemy — and what's at stake.

This is war for souls — including those trapped in LGBTQ bondage.

This isn't "love is love."

It's a demonic strategy to drag souls to hell.

That's why we speak. That's why we pray. That's why we fight to see captives set free.

Conclusion

Church — we've heard the truth.

We've seen the battle.

We know the cost.

But our hope is not in politics, not in policies, not in public opinion — our hope is in Jesus.

And while the world shakes — His Word stands.

While culture drifts — His design holds true.

While souls are trapped — His gospel still liberates.

This is our assignment:

Stand firm.

Speak truth.

Love people.

Reach the lost.

Fight for the next generation.

And live for the glory of God.

So if today you've been convicted — thank the Lord.

If you've been silent — repent of it.

If you've been discouraged — be strengthened.

Because God doesn't need a perfect church.

He's calling for a faithful one.

Bridge Fellowship — let's continue to be that church for our own good and for the deliverance of our community.

Amen... Would you join me in prayer.

Altar Prayer...

Invite to up and join hands at the altar for prayer to pray. Or they stand and join hands where they currently are.

Father, we come to You right now — humbled by Your truth, desperate for Your grace, and fully dependent on Your help.

(Marriages)

Father —

We lift up every marriage in this house today.

Strengthen every covenant.

Protect the oneness You designed.

Guard hearts. Guard minds. Guard homes —

From the lies... from the confusion... from the attack of this world.

Where there's pain — bring healing.

Where there's distance — draw them close again.

Where the enemy has tried to divide —

Restore what only You can restore.

Make every marriage a living picture of Christ and His Church.

(Loved ones in same-sex)

Lord —

We pray for those carrying the heavy weight of loved ones trapped in same-sex sin.

You see every tear.

You know every sleepless night.

Give them courage to speak truth.

Give them wisdom to know when to speak —

And when to stay on their knees and pray.

Give them hope —

Because nobody is too far gone for You.

Break chains.

Open blind eyes.

Bring their sons. Bring their daughters. Bring their friends —

Back home to You.

(Dealing with same-sex)

And God —

We lift up the ones in this room right now —

Fighting secret battles.

Wrestling with same-sex attraction.

Stuck in hidden sin.

Remind them today —

Your grace is greater than the struggle.

Freedom is possible.

Forgiveness is available.

They are not defined by temptation —

They are who You say they are.

Speak life over them right now.

Call them out of bondage — and bring them into freedom.

Surround them with brothers and sisters who will walk with them —

Not shame them.

Lead them into repentance —

And make them living trophies of Your grace.

(For Bridge Fellowship)

Lord —

Make Bridge Fellowship a church that stands firm in truth.

A church that leads with compassion.

A church that fights for souls.

A church that never bows to the lies of this world.

Fill us with courage.

Fill us with conviction.

Fill us with compassion.

We trust You.

We need You.

We honor You.

In Jesus' mighty name we pray — Amen.

Closing..

