

## **“Ephesians – Same Sex Union – Ephesians 5:31”**

**May 25-26, 2013**

### ***For Starters***

1. What about this week’s sermon has you thinking? What questions remain, and where is it calling for change in your life?
2. Do you agree that we (the church) have placed an “asterisk” by homosexuality setting it aside as a unique sin that stands apart from the rest? Why is this? What are the consequences when we do this– for us and our gay friends?
3. How would you characterize the “church’s” response to the GLBT community? How has the church driven them away and where have you seen the church balance grace and truth?

### ***Digging In***

1. What do we know from Scripture about all human beings?
  - From Genesis 1:26-28
  - From Psalm 8:5
  - From Psalm 139:13-14
  - From Romans 3:23
2. What do we know about the desires of our heart?
  - Ephesians 2:1-4; 4:17-24
  - Jeremiah 17:9
3. What does the Bible say about same sex union?
  - Leviticus 18 (note v 22 and 20:13) but pay attention to the bigger context
  - Matthew 5:31-32; 19:1-9 (note immorality refers to all sex outside the marriage of a husband and wife. See Leviticus 18)
  - Romans 1:18-32
  - 1 Corinthians 6:9-10
  - 1 Timothy 1:8-11
  - Jude 7
4. How did Jesus deal with people with sexual sin, and what do we learn from those encounters?
  - Matthew 5:28
  - John 4:13-26 - pay attention to the conversation when it gets to her sexual sin
  - John 8:3-11 - what does grace and truth look like in this situation

### ***Bringing it Home***

1. Where do you naturally fall on the grace and truth continuum? What changes do you need to make to be full of grace and truth?
2. What attitudes, thoughts, and behaviors does God want you to repent of as you respond to God’s Word this week?
3. What are the conversation stoppers around this subject? How can we use this topic to point people to Jesus?
4. How do we as a church continue to grow, and to be a place of grace grounded in Christ, welcoming anyone struggling (or maybe not struggling) with areas of sexual brokenness, including homosexuality as a part of our church and to hear about the love, mercy, and transforming power of God and His gospel?

**Digging Deeper-** Read and reflect on 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. Especially the phrase “And that is what some of you were.”

BELONGING TO A SMALL GROUP IS A GREAT WAY TO GROW SPIRITUALLY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN A GROUP OR GET MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT SUE HEIDEMANN AT [sheidemann@doorcreekchurch.org](mailto:sheidemann@doorcreekchurch.org).