

# BEYOND SUNDAY



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**SERMON DATE • MAY 21, 2023**

*Missed the sermon? Watch [here](#).*

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This guide is designed to offer a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own, or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

## MESSAGE THEME

**LOVE WITHOUT COMPROMISE**

## PRAYER FOCUS

"Thank you God that your grace is for each of us. Thank you that you sent your son not for one type of person but for each and every one of us. You are a perfect father, your goal is to save the sinners, not to fix the messed up. Your way of life is the best possible way of life. Amen".

## KEY TRUTHS

**The message of the gospel is perfect for anyone and everyone searching for truth.**

We need the help of our community and local church to continue to be a light and to represent the light of the gospel well. How we respond to people who come into our church community matters. No one is a problem to solve, but a person who needs the love of Jesus, just like anyone else.

The message of culture tells us that all truth is subjective. If it feels good, do it. But as christians we can ask, who has the authority and gets to decide what is right and wrong? Who is our authority?

The greatest commandments are to love God and love others. But we can't forget which one comes first. We are to love God first, then love other people. Do we believe Jesus' way of life is the best possible way we could live?

Some questions that have been asked relating to the topic of lgbtq+:

**Should we separate ourselves from family members that are gay?**

No. God calls us to have compassion without compromise. The most important thing about our neighbors is not their sexuality, but that they are an image bearer of God.

The Bible points out that all sins are held equal yet sometimes we categorize lgbtq+ in their own category. We don't do that with other types of sin. A person in sin is a person and sin, we are still called to love our neighbors.

**How should we respond to our child who told us they are gay?**

Just because someone is attracted to the same sex does not mean they are sinning. We all have desires that go against God's will. It's not the temptation but what we do with the temptation.

Seek to understand. Start by asking, "what do you mean?" Culture has already told them that their parents are going to disown them or disapprove of them as a person. When we respond with listening, humility, and patience, it shows them that they still matter and are important. It's difficult for both parties. When a child trusts us with information, we have to receive and process the information.

**Five things we can do if our child comes out as lgbtq+:**

1. Prioritize the relationship with the child. Love them through their journey. We have to affirm their identity in Christ. A lie from culture says that you have to affirm an alternate identity in order to love them.
2. Know the truth about what the bible teaches about homosexuality.
3. Do not underestimate the power of the gospel. God does not want to turn gay people straight, he wants to save sinners. God did not come to save one class of sinners but all of us and the power of the gospel is what does that. God's unmatched love is what came to save all of us from sin and destruction.
4. Pray a lot.
5. Seek christian counseling that has a biblical view.

**Our child states they are non-binary. They want to change their name and be referred to as they/them. How do we be counter cultural, love our child, and not dishonor God?**

Ask questions, "what do you mean by that". Help navigate their feelings and help them discover God's design for gender and sexuality. Our culture is telling us that there are more than two genders. We can have compassion without compromising how God sees them.

In Matthew 19 God created marriage, not the state. What is the purpose of marriage? To represent the covenantal love of God on the Earth. Marriage is an institution God created to point humanity to the covenantal love of God “never get your theology from human weakness”.

## PRACTICAL APPLICATION

A beautiful quote from the Sunday service, “never get your theology from human weakness.” We find the truth not in human weakness but in the truth of Jesus Christ. The best practical from this message is the practice of getting on our knees in prayer. We get to stand in faith for ourselves, and our friends and family.

## REFERENCE VERSES

- James 4:4-10
- 2 Timothy 4:2-4
- Matthew 5:27-28, 19:4-6
- Leviticus 18:22
- Romans 1:26-28
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
- 2 Corinthians 11:2
- Genesis 1:27

## DECLARATIONS

God is perfect theology. I will get my definition of truth from God and His word, not people.  
We are all sinners and we all need the savior. I will have grace and compassion for the people around me and seek God’s advice and healthy counsel when things get difficult.

## WHAT’S NEXT?

Now it’s time to write down anything the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, Thank Him and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.



*If hearing God or anything mentioned in this study is new to you then we invite you to take the Next Step.  
Further information can be found at [reslife.org/nextsteps](https://reslife.org/nextsteps)*