

Truth and Love – Part 2

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The **Big Picture Truth**: Believers must express love and truth both to those who struggle with same sex attraction in the church and to members of the LGBT community outside the church.

LOVING SAME-SEX ATTRACTION STRUGGLERS IN THE CHURCH

And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him.
Colossians 2:6 (New Living Translation)

Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.
Romans 12:10 (NLT)

Two Ways to Express Love

- Create safe spaces so that our brothers and sisters can share their struggle, find encouragement in their faith, and enjoy genuine fellowship.

- Work at becoming safe people.

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.
Ephesians 4:2 (New International Version)

- Work at becoming a safe faith-community.

- Pursue a same-sex attraction struggler who fails.

My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins. James 5:19-20 (ESV)

(See also 1 Corinthians 5.)

LOVING MEMBERS OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

Love means . . .

- . . . in every interaction with a member of the LGBT, believers demonstrate respect.

Show proper respect to everyone . . . 1 Peter 2:17a (ESV)

- . . . focusing on the most important spiritual problem.

. . . They said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. ⁵Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" ⁷. . . He stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." John 8:4-5, 7 (ESV)

- . . . initiating friendships and becoming a bridge to Jesus.

Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. ²³I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings. 1 Corinthians 9:22b (NLT)