#### BIG

# Questions



What About Homosexuality?

How Do We Overcome Racism?

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What About Homosexuality?



"I think the ship has sailed and I think that the church needs to just ... this is the world that we are living in and we need to affirm people wherever they are ... I think it's time for the church to acknowledge that we have brothers and sisters who are gay and want to share their life with someone. This is a part of life in the modern world and that's how it is."

Rob Bell

GOD AND THE GAY CHRISTIAN

MATTHEW VINES

The Biblical Case in Support of Same-Sex Relationships

## GODAND THE GAY CHRISTIAN

MATTHEW VINES

We see clear teaching in scripture on this issue – God has given us His plan.

Genesis 2:20 - But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. 21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22 And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

**Genesis 13:13** – Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the Lord.

Genesis 18:20 – Then the Lord said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and their sin is very grave..."

Jude 7 – "just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire..."

Romans 1:26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women, exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, 27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

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Christians must teach the truth in love.

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Christians must teach the truth in love.



"I needed a place that I could talk about those feelings, and I wanted to find that here, in this place called church, where I loved the people and the people loved me, but I didn't always feel safe in doing that. I would have given anything to find someone I could have talked to."

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How Do We Overcome Racism?

# We are made in God's image, and that God is the Creator of each and every culture.

**Genesis 1:26** – Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

**Genesis 1:27** – So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

**Genesis 9:6** – Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.

Psalm 139:13-14 – For you formed my inward parts; you knotted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Acts 17:25-26 – ... since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place...

1 Timothy 2:3-6 – This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

2 Peter 3:9 – The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

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When God's Word is taken seriously, there is no room for racist attitudes.

The church must follow the cross instead of culture.