

continuing the discussion on...
Homosexuality

Authentic change really is possible!

Many of us would be relieved to sweep the issue of homosexuality under the proverbial carpet. Some people hope that the subject isn't really addressed in the Bible. It's easier to believe this lifestyle is merely about two loving people sharing their lives together. The truth is that homosexuality *is* clearly warned about in the Bible. And a closer look at the lifestyle also unmistakably reveals that it is not only sinful, but derives out of unhealthy responses to hurts and voids in a person's life. This way of life leads people away from a loving God and His protective truth. So, before you get out that proverbial broom, consider this...

The same man who led the charge in 1973 to have homosexuality removed from the psychiatric manual of mental disorders, now believes that sexual orientation is in fact changeable. "Like most psychiatrists," says Dr. Robert Spitzer, "I thought that homosexual behavior could be resisted, but sexual orientation could not be changed. I now believe that's untrue. Some people can and do change."


Dr. Spitzer interviewed 200 subjects (143 men and 57 women) who were willing to describe their sexual and emotional histories, including self-reported shifts from homosexual to heterosexual orientations. Most of these individuals sought change after finding the gay lifestyle to be emotionally unsatisfying. Many of these people found themselves disturbed by promiscuity, stormy relationships, conflict with religious values and a personal desire to be married. While, at first, the lifestyle may have seduced them into seeming to be the answer to hurt and confusion, experience revealed it to only lead into further despair.

To the researcher's surprise, good heterosexual functioning was reportedly achieved by 67 percent of the men (and a higher percentage of the women) who had rarely or never felt any opposite-sex attraction before the change process. Dr. Spitzer found that the majority of participants did change from a predominantly, or exclu-

sively homosexual identification before therapy to a predominantly or exclusively heterosexual orientation as a result of therapy. He discovered what God has said all along, "Change is possible!" In contrast to what you may often hear, Scripture makes this clear. There is hope!

"Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." -1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Many are discovering that just because our culture has done much to tear apart the godly concept of a loving marriage between a husband and a wife, it doesn't mean the answer is found in alternatives. The real answer is in returning to what God intended for relationships. It is only then that we can possibly find the deep, satisfying intimacy that we search for with another person. Along the way, we also learn that the most truly satisfying relationship comes only as we seek God and move to know Him more deeply.

To learn more about homosexuality and the possibilities for change, see our new Release ministry webpages. 



Learn more about CEFC's (newly-named) Release ministry to the homosexual community and the friends and families of those who live in this lifestyle by calling **763-971-5123** or visit:

www.cefc.com/care/hope.html