



Discussion Questions:

1. Read Proverbs 13:13-15. What is your response to these verses? What role does Scripture have in your life? What areas in your life line up with Scripture and are there areas that do not? How can you as a group encourage each other to live under the authority of Scripture?
2. Why do you think people rank sins in terms of “how bad” they are? Do you do this? What would it look like if we treated the “small sins” that same as the “big ones” (1 Corinthians 6:9-11 and Matthew 23:23-28)?
3. What does it mean that the struggle with same-sex orientation isn’t Biblically sinful, while the behaviour is? How does this change the conversation around being “born this way,” and define how we view the fact that God loves every person he has created?
4. How does bringing people into our own day-to-day lives help them feel loved by the Church instead of feeling judged from a distance? Do you do this and, if not, what do you fear about bringing people with different lifestyles into yours? Who, or what groups of people do you judge, and how could you practically start loving them?
5. How can we be present in people's lives and love them, while still honouring the gospel? In other words, loving unconditionally, but not affirming a lifestyle (John 1:17).

Going Deeper Questions:

1. *“I am to deny myself, take up my cross and follow him. Every Christian is called to costly sacrifice. Denying yourself does not mean tweaking your behaviour here and there. It is saying 'no' to your deepest sense of who you are, for the sake of Christ. To take up a cross is to declare your life (as you have known it) forfeit.”* -- Sam Allberry

Consider what this quote means for you, and share your response. What areas of your life need “forfeiting”?

2. Does the Bible create as narrow of male and female stereotypes as culture or the Church has? How may this have impacted people’s views of their own gender identities? How could the church be more biblical on this question?

Weekly Bible Passages:

Ephesians 4:17-32

Romans 6:1-14

Colossians 3:1-17