

ALL THINGS NEW A DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY FOR HEALING

*Overcoming the Effects of
Same-Sex Attraction and Sexual Brokenness*

**WORKBOOK #2: HOMOSEXUALITY, SEXUAL
INTEGRITY AND SPIRITUAL WARFARE**



2 Cor. 5:17

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All Things New: A Discipleship Ministry for Healing
Overcoming the Effects of Same-Sex Attraction and Sexual Brokenness
Workbook 2: Homosexuality, Sexual Integrity and Spiritual Warfare

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INTRODUCTION

ALL THINGS NEW: A DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY FOR HEALING is a Bible Study and Discipleship Ministry for people who experience same-sex attraction (SSA). It is designed to be facilitated by lay leaders and assisted by volunteer prayer/Accountability Partners. The purpose of the All Things New Ministry is to aid in the spiritual healing and growth of people who have in the past, or are currently experiencing SSA. This ministry is designed to help release people from the bondage of SSA and to allow them to experience healing from the effects of their exposure to SSA and sexual brokenness.

Each lesson contains five days of homework to be completed by the ministry participants prior to meeting as a group to discuss the lesson and complete the in-class exercises. Another very important aspect of this ministry is the weekly memory Scripture that relates to the lesson for the week.

If you are completing this workbook on your own and not using it as a part of a facilitated weekly Bible study, you will need to purchase the companion Facilitator Guide in order to have access to all of the material you need to get the most out of this Bible Study. This is especially relevant to the in-class exercises presented in this workbook. If you don't have the Facilitator Guide, or someone who is facilitating this Bible Study that is using that Facilitator Guide, some of the exercises may not make sense.

ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNERS

We grow spiritually as Christians by sharing our lives with other Christians. One important aspect of this Ministry is for you to have a trusted Christian Accountability Partner to share your journey with as you work through the homework assignments and weekly lessons. There will be times as you work through this material that you may feel like giving up or giving in to temptations that have been gripping you for years. Having an Accountability Partner who you can reach out to in times of temptation, or when you need a friend who understands what you are going through, can really help you to stay the course and experience victory over your struggles.

You may be assigned an Accountability Partner by the Ministry Facilitator(s) to work with you, or if you are completing this workbook on your own, please find someone who you trust; who you feel comfortable talking to; and who you can contact when you have questions or are struggling to complete an assignment. That person's role is to encourage you and to pray for you. Stay in regular contact with your Accountability Partner – sharing the homework assignments with them and letting them know how you are feeling as you work through this material.

OTHER RESOURCES FOR COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE:

A Guide for Listening and Inner Healing Prayer: Meeting God in the Broken Places by Rusty Rustenbach (NavPress 2011) ISBN: 978-1-61747-086-8 – used for Lessons #18-#27

All Things New: a Former Lesbian's Lifelong Search for Love by Debora Barr (True Potential Publishing 2012) ISBN: 978-1-935769-32-3 – Ministry Break Reading Assignment following Lesson #27

Sample

What the Bible Says About Homosexuality

LESSON #8

HOMEWORK

The Bible contains a number of Scriptures that address the issue of homosexuality. We will take a close look at five of these Scriptures as you complete the homework assignments this week.

God's design for human sexuality is that sexual conduct is to be enjoyed within the boundaries of marriage between one man and one woman. God created Adam and Eve and blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply." (Genesis 1:27-28) All other instances of sexual encounters in the Bible (homosexuality, adultery, bestiality, incest, rape, prostitution) are expressly prohibited, or are portrayed in an extremely negative light. In fact, the Word of God says that we are to flee sexual immorality because every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body (1 Corinthians 6:18). Sexual immorality (fornication) is any form of illicit sexual intercourse (adultery, homosexuality, lesbianism, incest, intercourse with animals, etc.).

When we are seeking God's will for our lives, it is important to search His Word for guidance about how to live a holy life. It is equally important when searching the Scriptures to read passages in context. Each of the passages that we will be examining will be within the context of the surrounding text. Scripture also needs to be interpreted in the context of the whole Bible. Next week, we will examine some of the beliefs of churches that are teaching Gay Theology, those churches that believe that homosexuality is just another form of human sexuality and that God created certain people to be gay or lesbian.

As you study the Scriptures dealing with homosexuality this week, continue to ask God to reveal to you the things that led to your Same-Sex Attraction, and continue to add information to your personal timeline (Lesson #6). The more experiences and encounters that God reveals to you about your past and the more things that you are willing to expose to the light of God's truth, the sooner you will experience healing from those past pains and hurts.

This Week's Memory Verse:

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV) "Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

DAY 1

The Book of Leviticus is one of the five books of the Bible written by Moses and is considered one of the books of Law. The setting for this book is when the Israelites have been delivered from 400 years of slavery in Egypt and are now on the way to the Promised Land. They have already received the Ten Commandments at Mt. Sinai and much of Leviticus expands upon the 10 Commandments and teaches the Israelites how to live holy lives. Many of the laws reflect God’s concern that the people of Israel not engage in worship and cultural practices carried out by the Egyptians and their soon-to-be neighbors around Canaan who worship idols. It contains the instructions for Holy Living – instructions for ritual and moral purity. When the Israelites maintained their purity, God could live among them and they could approach Him in worship. This is reflected in several places in the book where it says “You shall be holy for I am holy.”

Read Leviticus Chapter 18 and answer the following questions:

1. What verse or verses speak directly about homosexuality and what does it say?

2. What other sexual sins are listed in this chapter? What does God say about all of these forms of sexual sin?

3. Why do you think God prohibited all of these forms of sexual immorality? What is He establishing with the children of Israel in this chapter?

4. Continue to work on your Timeline/Root Cause Exercise (Lesson #6), adding details as God helps you to remember the things that you have experienced over your lifetime. Are there any other areas of sexual sin in your life that you have identified that need to be included in your timeline?

Practice writing your memory verse (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Sample

DAY 2

Read Leviticus Chapter 20 and answer the following questions:

1. What verse or verses speak directly about homosexuality and what does it say?

2. What is Chapter 20 all about? In applying this chapter to your life today, do you think God is talking about the death penalty like we understand the death penalty for a prisoner sentenced to death by the State, or does it apply to us in a different way today if we commit these sins? Explain.

3. What non-sexual sins are listed in Chapter 20 as being worthy of the death penalty? Why do you think these things are abhorrent to God?

4. Continue to work on your Timeline/Root Cause Exercise (Lesson #6), adding details as God helps you to remember the things that you have experienced over your lifetime. Are there any other areas of sexual sin in your life that you have identified that need to be included in your timeline?

Practice writing your memory verse (2 Corinthians 5:17).

DAY 3

The book of Romans was written by the Apostle Paul to a church in Rome. Paul wrote this book to:

- Prepare them for his planned journey to Rome
- Explain God's plan of salvation for Jews and Gentiles (or non-Jews)
- Exhort them to live in harmony

Read Romans Chapter 1 and answer the following questions:

1. What verse or verses speak directly about homosexuality and what does it say?

2. What is Paul talking about specifically in verses 20-31? What is the cause-and-effect relationship that is revealed here?

3. How have you personally experienced what is revealed to you in this passage of Scripture? Describe.

4. Continue to work on your Timeline/Root Cause Exercise (Lesson #6), adding details as God helps you to remember the things that you have experienced over your lifetime. Are there any other areas of sexual sin in your life that you have identified that need to be included in your timeline?

Practice writing your memory verse (2 Corinthians 5:17).

DAY 4

The first book of Corinthians was written by the Apostle Paul. He wrote it when he was in Ephesus and he wrote it to a church in Corinth. The Corinthian church was a seriously troubled church infected with sexual immorality; split by factions of people who dragged each other to court; and crippled by abuse of their spiritual gifts. They were Christians who were following the immoral, selfish, and contentious ways of their pagan neighbors. Paul wrote to the Corinthians to teach them that redemption must be applied to everyday situations. He taught that believers needed to remember that their new life in Christ calls for a new way of living.

Read 1 Corinthians Chapter 6 and answer the following questions:

1. What verse or verses speak directly about homosexuality and what does it say?

2. What good news related to homosexuality do you see in this passage? What verse is it and what does it say?

3. What does Paul say in verses 12-20 about your body? What dangers does he warn us about and what are we to do in the face of temptations related to sexual immorality?

4. Continue to work on your Timeline/Root Cause Exercise (Lesson #6), adding details as God helps you to remember the things that you have experienced over your lifetime. Are there any other areas of sexual sin in your life that you have identified that need to be included in your timeline?

Practice writing your memory verse (2 Corinthians 5:17).

DAY 5

The first book of Timothy is a Pastoral Epistle and was written by the Apostle Paul to Timothy. Paul was Timothy's mentor and teacher. The central purpose of 1 Timothy is to instruct Timothy, a young minister, with practical advice on how the church should function and how mature men and women of God should interact with each other.

Read 1 Timothy Chapter 1 and answer the following questions:

1. What verse or verses speak directly about homosexuality and what does it say?

2. Compare what Paul says about the law in verses 8-11 with the Ten Commandments which can be found in Exodus 20:3-17 and Deuteronomy 5:7-21. What do you notice? Do you see any parallels? Explain.

3. What does Paul say about God's grace in verses 12-16? How have you experienced God's grace in your struggles with SSA?

4. Continue to work on your Timeline/Root Cause Exercise (Lesson #6), adding details as God helps you to remember the things that you have experienced over your lifetime. Are there any other areas of sexual sin in your life that you have identified that need to be included in your timeline?

Practice writing your memory verse (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Notes/Questions to bring to the next Group Session:

What the Bible Says About Homosexuality

LESSON #8

CLASSROOM DISCUSSION

Sodom and Gomorrah

1. To “know” carnally means to have _____. (Leviticus 18:20, 1 Kings 1:1-4)
2. God destroyed the city of Sodom because of her _____, gluttony, _____, lack of charity, and _____. (Ezekiel 16:49-50)
3. God destroyed both Sodom and Gomorrah, because of their _____ specifically _____. (Jude 1:7)

What did Jesus Say about Homosexuality?

4. God’s original _____ for _____ is one _____ and one _____ (Genesis 2:23-24)
5. Marriage is a _____. (Mark 10:12)
6. Jesus came to _____ the _____. (Matthew 5:17-18, Luke 16:17)
7. The _____ Word of God is _____. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)