

10/6/2019

A two week series on our stance on LGBT issues

**Part One- The Believe, Behave, Belong Dilemma**

**1 Corinthians 5:9-13** <sup>9</sup>I wrote you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people. <sup>10</sup>I was not including the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. <sup>11</sup>But now I am writing you not to associate with anyone who claims to be a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a verbal abuser, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. <sup>12</sup>What business of mine is it to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? <sup>13</sup>God will judge those outside. “Expel the wicked man from among you.” (NIV)

**1 Corinthians 14:22-25** <sup>22</sup>Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers; prophecy, however, is not for unbelievers but for believers. <sup>23</sup>So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? <sup>24</sup>But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all, <sup>25</sup>as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, “God is really among you!” (NIV)

**Colossian 4:5-6** <sup>5</sup>Act wisely toward outsiders, redeeming the time. <sup>6</sup>Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. (NIV)

**Romans 2:4** <sup>4</sup>Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God’s kindness is intended to lead you to repentance? (NIV)

**Intro:** Today’s sermon is an unusual one. I thought that I would give a synopsis of what was discussed at the LGBT conference that was held a few weeks ago and explain, in a nutshell, what my vision is for reaching the lost around us.

Here are the questions that I will answer today:

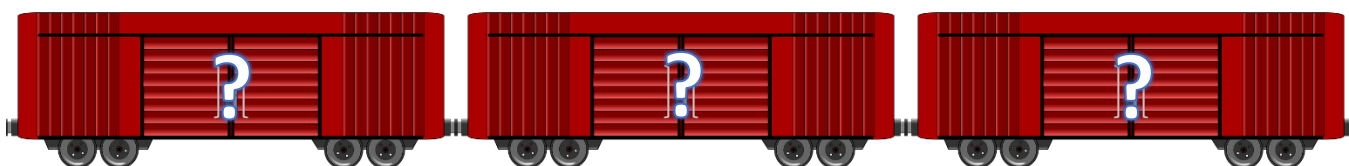
1. Is the Missionary Church abandoning our stance on immorality?

The answer is: **NO!**

2. What were the conclusions that were given at the conference?

**83%** of the LGBT community were raised in church. Roughly **90%** of them are interested in returning to church if changes were made in the way that their church dealt with this matter. **92%** of those who would come back said that it had nothing to do with changing our stance on immorality!

3. What are some of the changes that they would like to see the churches that they left make?
  - A. **Listen** to them and let them tell their story.
  - B. Ask them to **define** the words that they use, don't assume.
  - C. Be **consistent** in our treatment of people caught up in behavior that is not in alignment with biblical truth.
  - D. **Love** them without compromising biblical truth.
4. What is the Believe, Behave, Belong Dilemma? This is how we are trying to address these issues raised by this conference.



Here is what I mean by each:



– **Profession** of saving faith.



– Having my behavior in **alignment** with God's word.



– Having the **Security** that I belong here at NMMC.

5. What order do we put these in here at NMMC?
  - A. We have different **levels** of belonging.
  - B. Everyone that attends here need to feel that they are **loved** just as they are.
  - C. The second level of belonging is **baptism**.
  - D. The third level of belonging is **membership**.

**Conclusion:** Next week we will continue this series.