

Lesson 10 The Continuing Rebellion Against God's Design: Homosexuality



Rejoicing in God's Good Design

Illustration



Homosexuality: An Ancient Sin

Rebellion started in the Garden and brought about distortion of...

- Gender roles
- Gender identities
- Gender desires → homosexuality

Homosexuality: In the Bible

Genesis 13:13

Genesis 19:1-11

Genesis 19:24-25

Homosexual practices were known in ancient times and God condemned it clearly in the Old Covenant Law.

Leviticus 18:22

Leviticus 20:13

Homosexuality is also condemned in the New Testament in various places.

1 Corinthians 6:9-10



God's Design

From the beginning, God created sexual relations to be between a man and a woman within the covenant of marriage.



Is It Unloving to Say that Homosexuality is a Sin?

Graciously speaking the truth is a loving thing to do. It may rescue someone from sin and condemnation.

It is good to speak the truth in love, no matter how unpopular it might be.

Pointing out sin in a prideful or condemning way is never appropriate.

Ephesians 4:15 ... *speaking the truth in love...*

The Heart of Homosexuality: Rebellion Against the Creator

Romans 1:18-28

- Homosexuality is part of God's judgment against the sin of man.

“God gave them up”

- God does this by removing restraints against sin, not by causing us to sin.
- Homosexuality is both a punishable offense and is punishment for a much deeper sin.

Heart of Homosexuality

What deeper sin is at the heart of homosexuality?: Idolatry

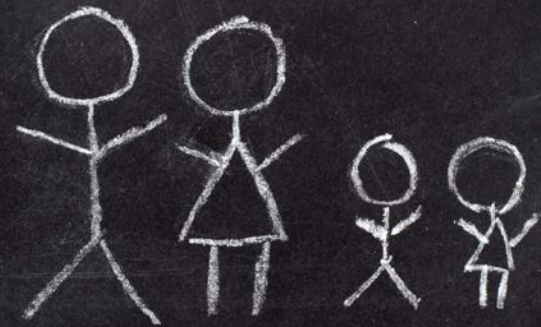
“...homosexuality is an expression of an idolatrous heart. This is our deepest problem. We have an instinct that switches our allegiance from God to our idols. What are our idols?...The possibilities are endless, but they all have one thing in common: an allegiance to self. We rebel against God, and we choose to live for our glory rather than God's. We choose to obey our own desires rather than God's Word.”

Ed Welch

God's Design

God created sexual relations to be *only* between a man and a woman and *only* within the context of marriage.

Homosexuality is unnatural and against God's design. All men and women were designed by God to be heterosexual.



Practice vs. Desire?

Mark 7:21-23

Homosexual behavior comes from the heart—the center of our desires, attitudes, and thoughts.

The Bible does not separate desire from action, but rather attributes action as coming from a sinful heart. **(Matthew 5:21-22, 27-28)**

Our problem is our sinful hearts, not just the action that proceeds from them.

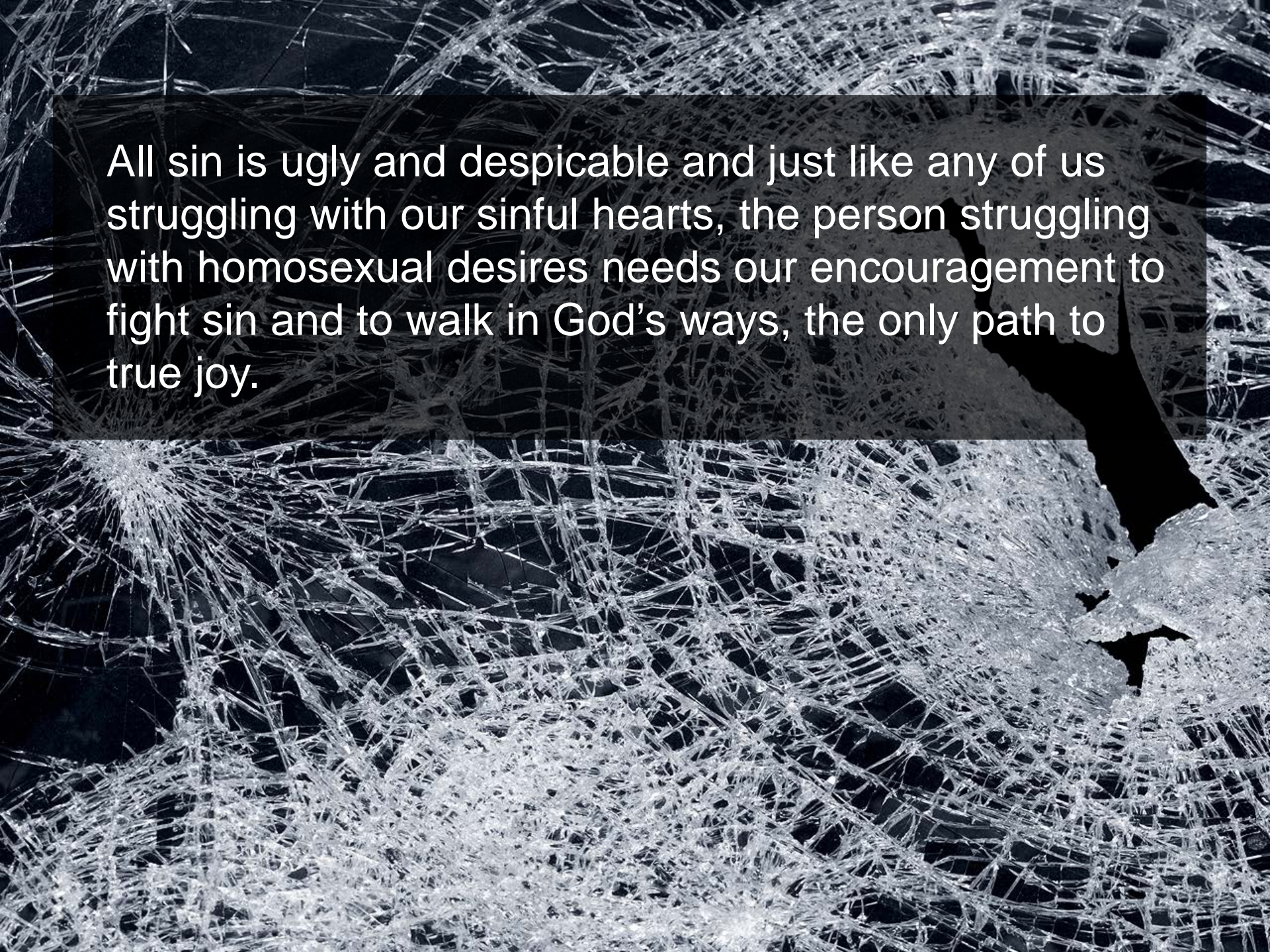


Sin

A Call to Fight


The natural proneness to certain sins does not justify sin.

- Sin is “natural” in the sense that it is connected to our sin nature inherited in the fall, and fostered by our rebellion against God.
- Each person has the choice to either fight sinful desires or give in to them.



All sin is ugly and despicable and just like any of us struggling with our sinful hearts, the person struggling with homosexual desires needs our encouragement to fight sin and to walk in God's ways, the only path to true joy.





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