

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2019

PULL UP A CHAIR SEXUALITY

Scripture Reading Luke 6:41–46

FROM THE SERMON

I am suggesting that in Genesis 3 perspective, no one's sexuality is innocent. Everyone's sexuality is broken in ways known quite well to each of us in our own hearts. Everyone's sexuality needs to be morally disciplined and ordered. Meanwhile, basic standards of Christian humility direct our attention to our own issues rather than those of others.

David P. Gushee, [*Changing Our Mind*](#)

One often hears voices in the church urging that the radical demands of Christian discipleship should not be pressed upon church members because the “loving” thing to do is to include everyone without imposing harsh demands – for example, disciplines of economic sharing or sexual fidelity. Indeed love is sometimes invoked even to sanction sexual relations outside marriage or the use of violence. Surely in such cases the term has been emptied of its meaning. The biblical story teaches us that God's love cannot be reduced to “inclusiveness”: authentic love calls us to repentance, discipline, sacrifice, and transformation.

Richard B. Hays, [*The Moral Vision of the New Testament*](#)

Are we to be welcoming of all people? Absolutely! Are we to affirm all belief systems and behaviors of all who break bread with us? Absolutely not. If God doesn't affirm all human behavior, then neither can his ecclesia. However, we need to be clear that Jesus and his way must take priority.

And remember, he is not the standard religious kind of guy. He's unlikely to simply agree with you no matter where you stand on these matters.

Debra Hirsch, *Redeeming Sex*

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR THIS SERIES

Earlier this year, Oak Hillian Michael Zacharia, Co-Director of Faith-Based Diplomacy Project and adjunct professor at Pepperdine University Law School, gave a talk on difficult conversations. This great resource has been made available. View his talk [here](#). Access the worksheets for the talk [here](#).

ADDITIONAL READING

[*A Fellowship of Differents*](#), Scot McKnight

[*Kingdom Conspiracy*](#), Scot McKnight

[*The Church of Us Versus Them*](#), David Fitch

[*Glittering Vices*](#), Rebeccas Konyndyk DeYoung

[*Christians in the Age of Outrage*](#), Ed Stetzer

[*Every Step An Arrival*](#), Eugene Peterson

[*Uncommon Decency*](#), Richard Mouw