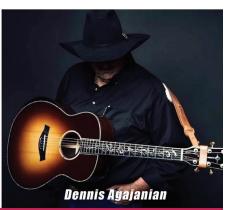


# Veterans Celebration FREE Concert & Lunch

Date: Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup> Time: 11:00am - 1:00pm Location: Awaken Las Vegas 7175 W. Oquendo Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89113

Please RSVP using the QR code or call 702-328-2639









## REACHING THE CULTURE



### NAVIGATINGS LOVE'S BOUNDARIES GENESIS 1:26-27

WEEK 5

The deepest question isn't "What does the Bible say about sexuality."

But, "Is Jesus who He claims to be?"

When it comes to issues of sexuality, specifically same-sex relationships, we live in a volatile culture. But this cultural moment didn't just happen. It has been centuries in the making with the shift from modernism to post-modernism. Today, the fringes control the narrative. On the one hand, there are people like the Westboro Baptist Church. Parading with signs that say God hates gays. Preaching a message of condemnation and rejection. And on the other hand, you have those advancing the militant gay agenda seeking to reshape the perception of sex in America. Even to the extent of indoctrinating children. While I have to remind people that my brand of Christianity is not the Westboro Baptist brand, some of my gay friends remind me that they are not with the militant gay agenda and are as offended at the indoctrination of children as I am. Amidst all that, we have people sincerely searching for answers. People who identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual who are sincerely seeking God—who are trying to find answers to the most significant questions in life. Also, parents who are desperately seeking help to guide their children who have same-sex orientation. What's at stake? The answer to one of the most critical questions in life, "Who tells me who I am?" There are so many voices trying to answer this question. It's my conviction that God should have something to say about it.

#### (10 min) OPENING PRAYER

Ask God to permeate your time with His presence. Issues of sexuality run deep among people, From struggling with sexual temptation to sexual abuse and gender confusion. Ask the Holy Spirit to pour over your time with grace, love, mercy, and truth. And that God's presence would touch the hearts of people.

#### (25 min) TIME TO CONSIDER

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through this week's lesson, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

- 1. Reread Genesis 1:26-27 and Genesis 2:20-25. Answer these questions. What does it mean to be made in God's image? How does that establish our value and worth? How does the initial union between Adam and Eve become a model for marriage?
- 2. There are so many lists of sins in the Scriptures. Why does God provide these lists? Consider the following as you answer this question: the effect of sin on imagebearing, the Kingdom Life that Jesus brought to His followers, and the comprehensive need we all have for a Savior.
- 3. Based on the study, how can we effectively bring the light of Christ's grace and truth to a person with a same-sex orientation? How do you think Jesus would reach them with His love?
- 4. Explain how this statement is true: Jesus provides the greatest answer to identity, value and meaning.

WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSES: **Psalm 34:8 Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.** 

**EXPERIENCING THE SPIRIT TOGETHER:** Pray for the next 15-20 minutes as a Life Group. The LGBT community generally feels that the Christian community has rejected them. In many ways, that is true, and in some ways, it is not. The fact is that they are a community desperate for the love of Christ, and they don't necessarily know that. Spend time interceding in prayer for them. Be considerate of people in your group who, as Christians, wrestle with same-sex attraction. Be considerate of people in your group with friends or family members who identify as LGBT. Be willing to pray for one another concerning this as the Spirit opens up your time together.

#### (5 min) LIVE IT

Based on the study, be faithful to obey the words of Christ this week. Recognize that the fields are white to the harvest. Believe that this is an amazing time to be a Christian and to share the love of Jesus. Do that! Look for the opportunities God gives you this week and be filled with His grace and truth to meet them.