



HOT POTATO #2: *Can Queers Follow Christ?*

INTRODUCTION – A “Third Way” Church

- Did he say (gulp) “queer”?...
- A “Third Way” church...
- The truth about “us” & “them”...
- Biology is not destiny...
- Becoming a product of your future...
- Demythologizing sex...

PANEL DISCUSSION – What Shape Should Love Take?

1 John 4:7-21

CONCLUSION – Jesus Is Lord

Romans 10:9; 1 Corinthians 12:3; 2 Corinthians 4:5
John 12:45; 14:9

TO SAY “JESUS IS LORD” IS TO SAY...

- a) You’re the one who has the right to tell me how to live.
- b) You show me what God looks like and how he wants me to live.

FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION...

- First Hot Potato Series: *Is Being Gay A Sin?*
- Second Hot Potato Series: *Is Gay Marriage A Step In The Right Direction?*
- Not Ashamed, Part 2: *Getting What You Want*

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

1. Explore and discuss the implications of this quote by evangelical scholar Richard B. Hayes: *We live, then, as a community that embraces sinners as Jesus did, without waiving aside God's righteousness. We live confessing that God's grace claims us out of confusion and alienation and sets about making us whole. We live knowing that wholeness remains a hope rather than an attainment in this life. The homosexual Christians in our midst may teach us something about our true condition as people living between the cross and the final redemption of our bodies.*
2. Talk about your reaction to this week’s teaching. What things most challenged, perplexed, or encouraged you?

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

3. Read **Romans 1:18-32**.
 - a. Note how God’s wrath is described as a natural or automatic consequence for walking away from his design, rather than his active, personal punishment. How is this different than God’s love (see **Romans 5:8-9**)? What does this suggest about God’s heart toward us?
 - b. Think back to last week. How do we see God’s *love* in the story of Babel (**Genesis 11:1-9**)? What could his wrath have looked like? How does this understanding of love and wrath connect with Paul’s in **Romans 1**?
 - c. Paul suggests that all people know truth, but some people suppress it. How, according to this text, do we suppress divine truth?
 - d. In what ways do you see yourself in this passage?
 - e. How does **2:1** summarize Paul’s main point?

SO WHAT?...

4. How would you answer the question, *Is The Meeting House “queer friendly”?*
5. If time permits, read through the document entitled, *“Is The Meeting House Queer Friendly?”*. (Whether or not you read the document, you can discuss the following questions.)
 - a. What are the unique challenges to The Meeting House that would not affect a strictly conservative or strictly liberal church?
 - b. How well do you think your Home Church is prepared to meet those challenges?
 - c. What is something you can choose to do now to grow in preparation?
 - d. Read **1 Thessalonians 3:12 & Titus 3:1-2** and then pray for your ability as individuals and as a group to live this out.

Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, October 2 / 9, 2005