

WELL VERSED | CHAPTER 11

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

1. What does it mean when somebody is “born that way?” Aren’t we all born a certain way with certain proclivities toward doing wrong? Don’t we all have to “not yield to temptations to be certain ways that we were born?” (91)
2. Review the story on page 92 about a pastoral counselor on staff at Skyline Church named Don Welch, who is in a lawsuit against the state of California, *Welch v. Edmond G. Brown* (Governor of California), in which his 1st Amendment rights have been taken away. He is not allowed to counsel a minor that they don’t have to be and don’t have to act out as a homosexual. How does that make you feel about our 1st Amendment rights and the state of our nation?
3. Review the names on page 95: Barronelle Stutzman, Blaine Adamson, Elaine Huguenin. These are only three in an extremely long list of people who were forced to affirm sodomite so called “marriage.” Should they be forced to? Should they not be forced to? If so, why? If not, why not?
4. Let’s review where the Bible speaks about homosexuality beginning on page 97. How do the historical revisionists twist the scriptures starting with
 - a) Genesis 19:4-8 (inhospitality in spite of what Jude 7 says.
 - b) Leviticus 18:22, Leviticus 20:13 (they contend people don’t have eat pork and shellfish, or wear clothes with mixed fibers or have mixed seeds, consequently the prohibition against homosexuality was thrown out as well.)
 - c) Romans 1:26-27 (this is only referring to ancient temple practices in their view.)
 - d) 1 Timothy 1:10 (they contend that this was not referring to loving, caring, monogamous homosexual couples, but to evil men.)
 - e) How do you respond to those who have twisted the scripture so they can affirm the practice of homosexuality? (95-99)
5. How are we to respond to those who differ with us? How can we be loving? Jesus responded “full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14) How can we do the same? Do we sometimes respond with grace, but no truth? Do we sometimes respond with only truth, but no grace? How can we respond to both?
6. Are you reaching out to those struggling with same-sex attraction? If so, how do you do it?
7. Review Matthew 19:5 once again, where Jesus makes the case for two genders and the purpose of marriage?
8. Read 1 Corinthians 6:11. Where it says, “And that is what some of you were.” It clearly states that some were practicing homosexuality, but they were healed. Can you believe that God can heal those with same sex attraction or, at least, not act out on their impulses?