

# More than a Movement

Engaging in the LGBTQ  
Discussion

*Men of His Word Conference 2024*



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# There is a movement!

“Vatican says no heresy in allowing blessing for same-sex couples after pushback by some bishops” (January 4, 2024)

“Families react to transgender youth care ban effort in Ohio” (January 3, 2024)

“DeSantis signs bills affecting LGBTQ community” (January 2, 2024)

“Record number of anti-LGBTQ legislation filed in 2023” (January 1, 2024)

“How new FDA rule allowing gay, bisexual men to give blood is making donation more inclusive” (January 1, 2024)

“Wave of anti-LGVTQ laws proposed in 2023” (December 31, 2023)

MILWAUKEE (CBS 58) – The Milwaukee Bucks are set to host a special event to promote inclusiveness within Milwaukee. The team will celebrate Pride Night during their Monday, Jan. 8 game against the Utah Jazz at 7p.m. at Fiserv Forum. Entertainment will go beyond the basketball court, as the celebration will feature guest DJs, including DJ Boyfrriend, DJ Travvy Trav, Femme Noir and James Jaxin. A unique halftime show is planned, showcasing a vow renewal ceremony and performances by local LGBTQ+ artists and musicians.



Photo Credit: Milwaukee Bucks

<https://www.cbs58.com/news/milwaukee-bucks-to-celebrate-local-lgbtq-community-during-pride-night>

This shouldn't be that hard!



This is really hard!





In the midst of  
the movement,  
there are people.



# A Word on Terminology

- Sex, Gender, Gender Identity
- LGB
- T
- Gender Dysphoria / Intersex



# Non-Christians view of the evangelical church:



85% said hypocritical

87% said judgmental

91% said antihomosexual





Does our posture lack  
empathy?





“Jesus-love is neither permissive nor conditional. It expects and enables obedience but doesn’t require obedience as its prerequisite.”



Biblical integrity and  
biblical love are not  
opposite ends of a  
spectrum!



Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon,  
“Do you see this woman?”

Luke 7:44



Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

Mark 10:21





On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Matthew 9:12-13





“If you are a nonaffirming Christian—who believes that practicing gay and lesbian people are living in sin and that homosexual relations are among the most sinful things a person could engage in—then, if you truly desire to follow Jesus, you should have more LGBT friends and not less.”



# Greg's Seven "Aha's"

1. Individuals are not a movement.
2. Biblical integrity is not only prohibitive passages.
3. Sin is not just a behavior.
4. You can affirm humanity without affirming sexual ethics.
5. We are all created in the image of God and objectively loved.
6. Acknowledge what you don't know.
7. Be nuanced.



# About the WELS Committee on Identity, Gender, and Sexuality



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# What is Made.Known.?

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

Psalm 139:15



# What is Made.Known.?

For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

1 Corinthians 13:12



## **WELS Committee on Identity, Gender and Sexuality**

Made.Known. is a resource for people who have questions about their faith in connection with identity, gender, and sexuality.



# WELS Committee on Identity, Gender and Sexuality

With Christlike love and integrity, Made.Known. equips individuals and ministries because each of us is Wonderfully Made and Fully Known by God. We do this by

- Answering FAQs
- Sharing personal stories
- Connecting individuals to support
- Sharing helpful resources
- Providing devotions and sermons
- Supplying speakers and presenters
- Connecting institutional leaders











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