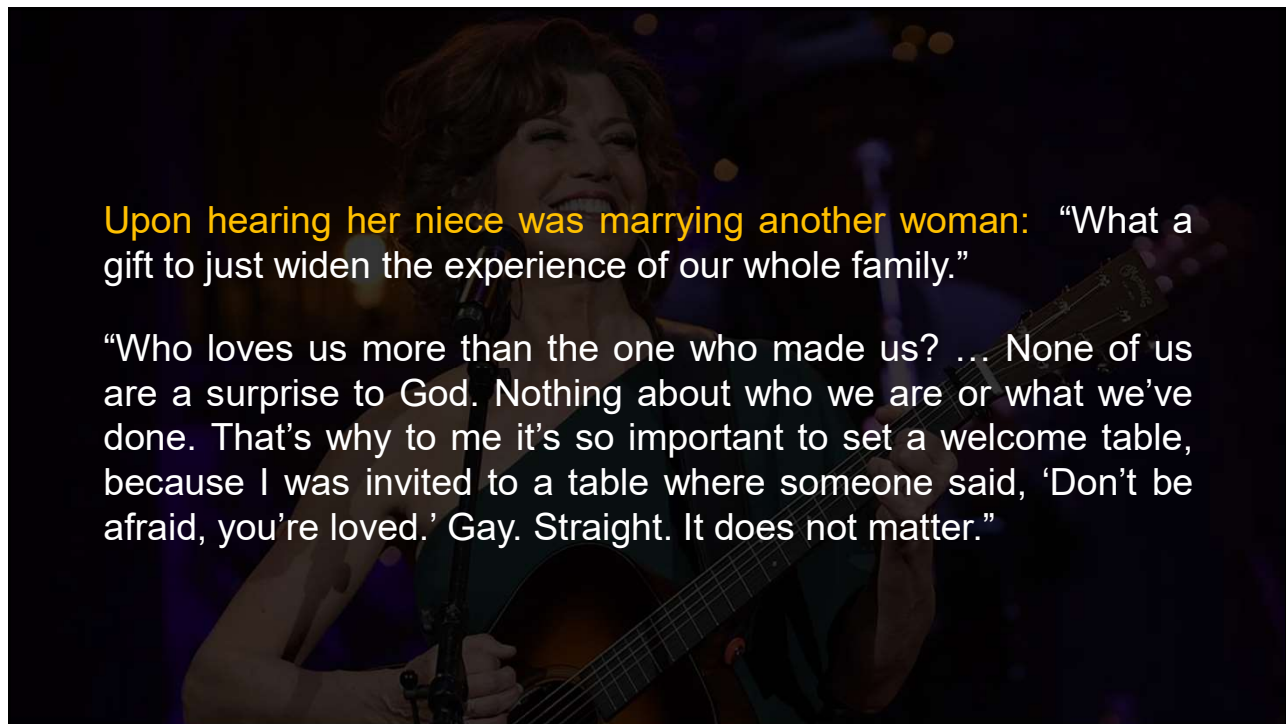




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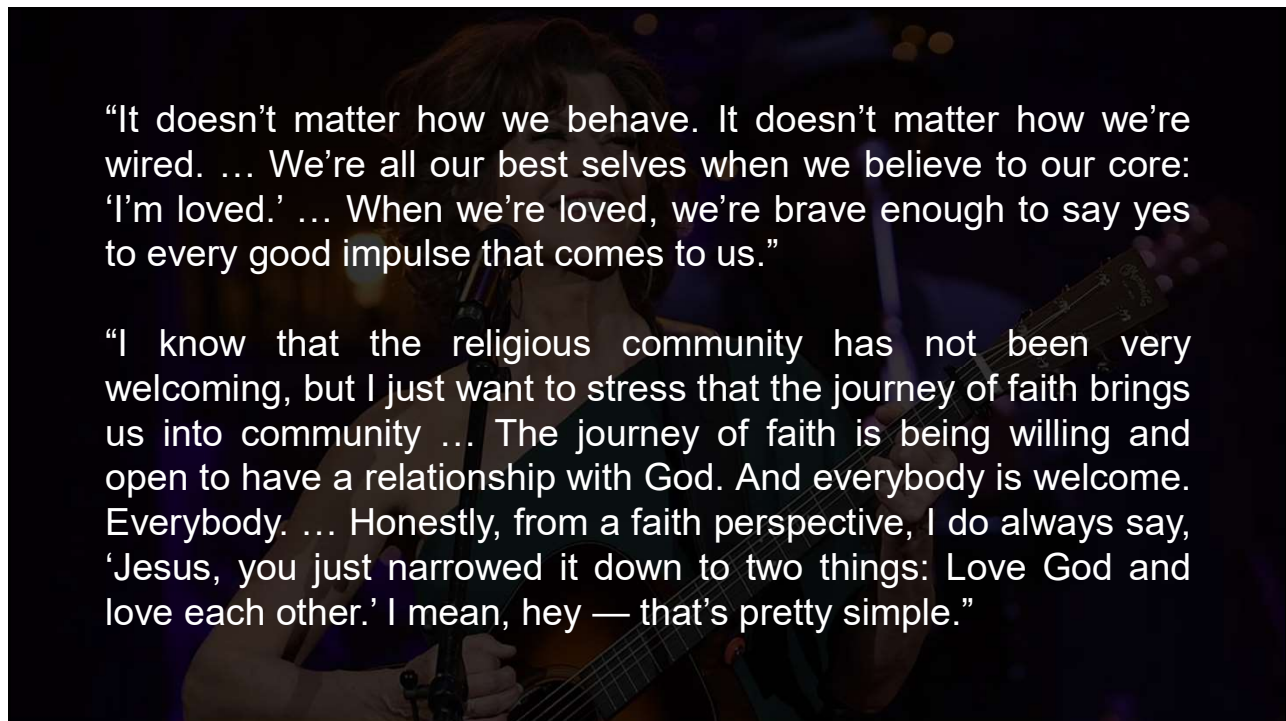
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Upon hearing her niece was marrying another woman: “What a gift to just widen the experience of our whole family.”

“Who loves us more than the one who made us? ... None of us are a surprise to God. Nothing about who we are or what we’ve done. That’s why to me it’s so important to set a welcome table, because I was invited to a table where someone said, ‘Don’t be afraid, you’re loved.’ Gay. Straight. It does not matter.”

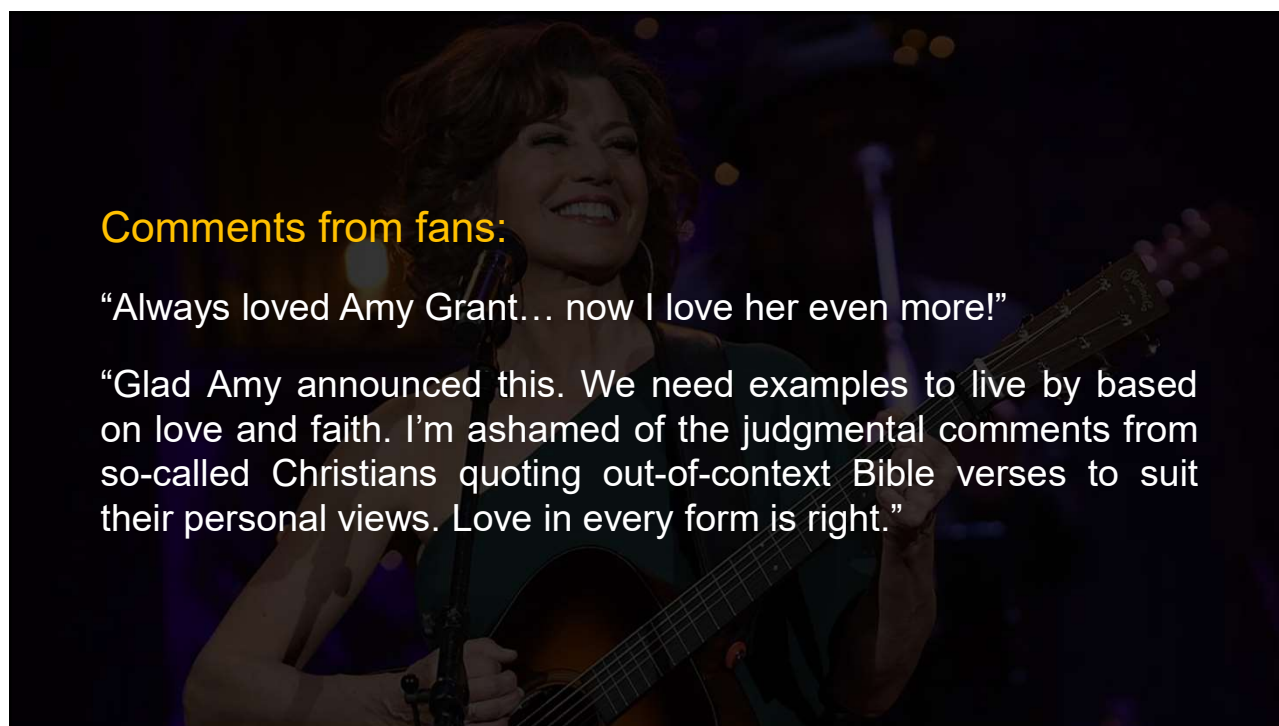
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“It doesn’t matter how we behave. It doesn’t matter how we’re wired. ... We’re all our best selves when we believe to our core: ‘I’m loved.’ ... When we’re loved, we’re brave enough to say yes to every good impulse that comes to us.”

“I know that the religious community has not been very welcoming, but I just want to stress that the journey of faith brings us into community ... The journey of faith is being willing and open to have a relationship with God. And everybody is welcome. Everybody. ... Honestly, from a faith perspective, I do always say, ‘Jesus, you just narrowed it down to two things: Love God and love each other.’ I mean, hey — that’s pretty simple.”

4



Comments from fans:

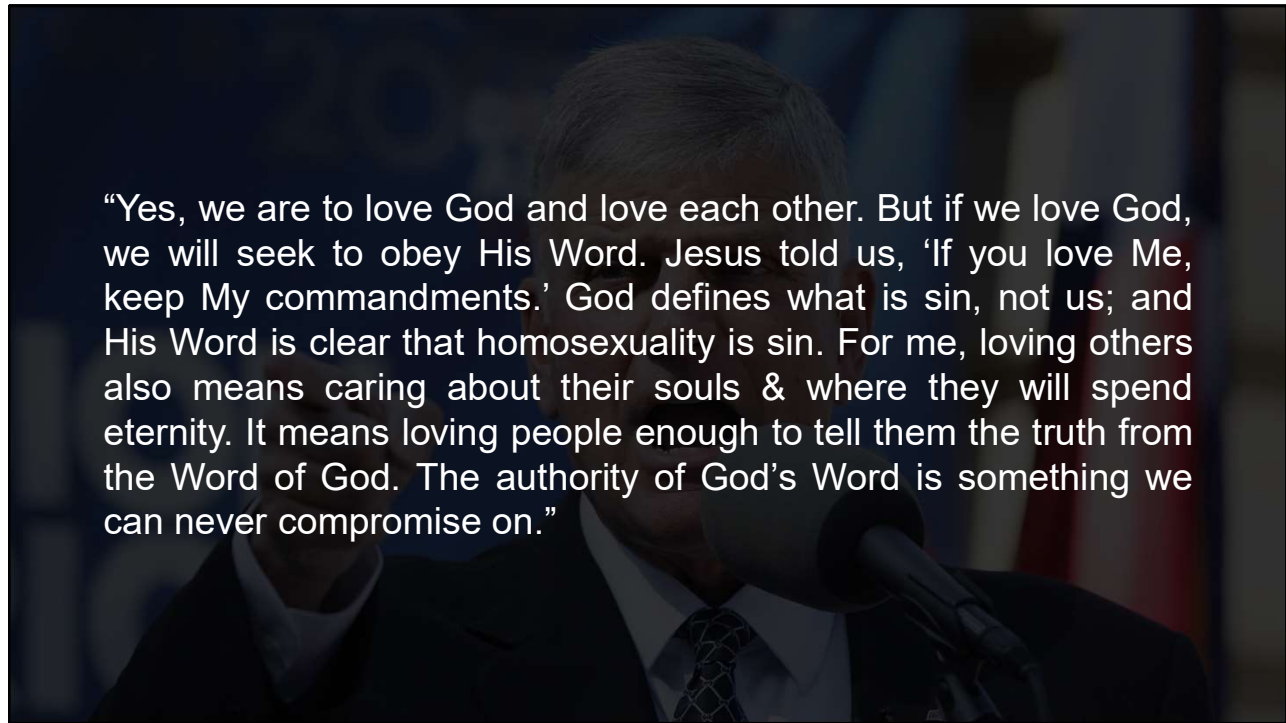
"Always loved Amy Grant... now I love her even more!"

"Glad Amy announced this. We need examples to live by based on love and faith. I'm ashamed of the judgmental comments from so-called Christians quoting out-of-context Bible verses to suit their personal views. Love in every form is right."

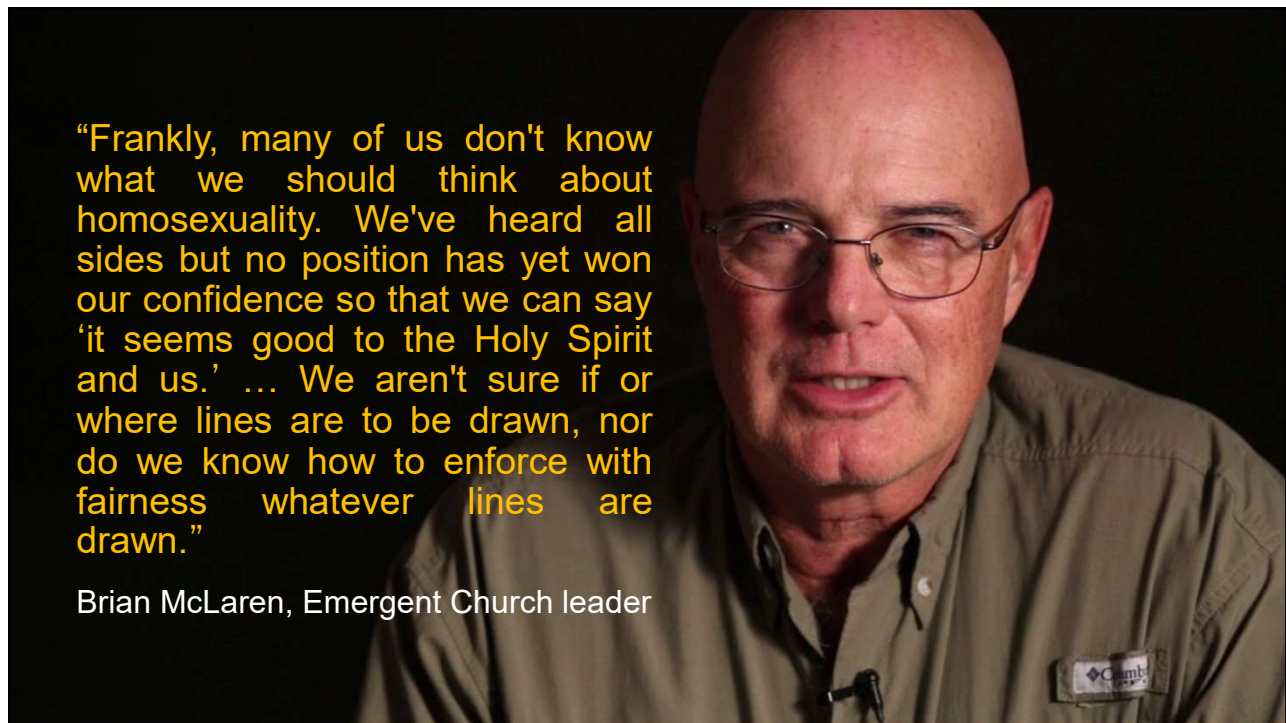
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7



8

"In terms of frequency of mention or the passion with which Paul talks about it, it would appear that quite a few other sins are more egregious in God's eyes than homosexuality. Jen Wilkin one of our favorite bible teachers here ... said, 'We ought to whisper about what the bible whispers about, and we ought to shout about what it shouts about, and the bible appears to whisper when it comes to sexual sin compared to its shouts about materialism and religious pride.'"

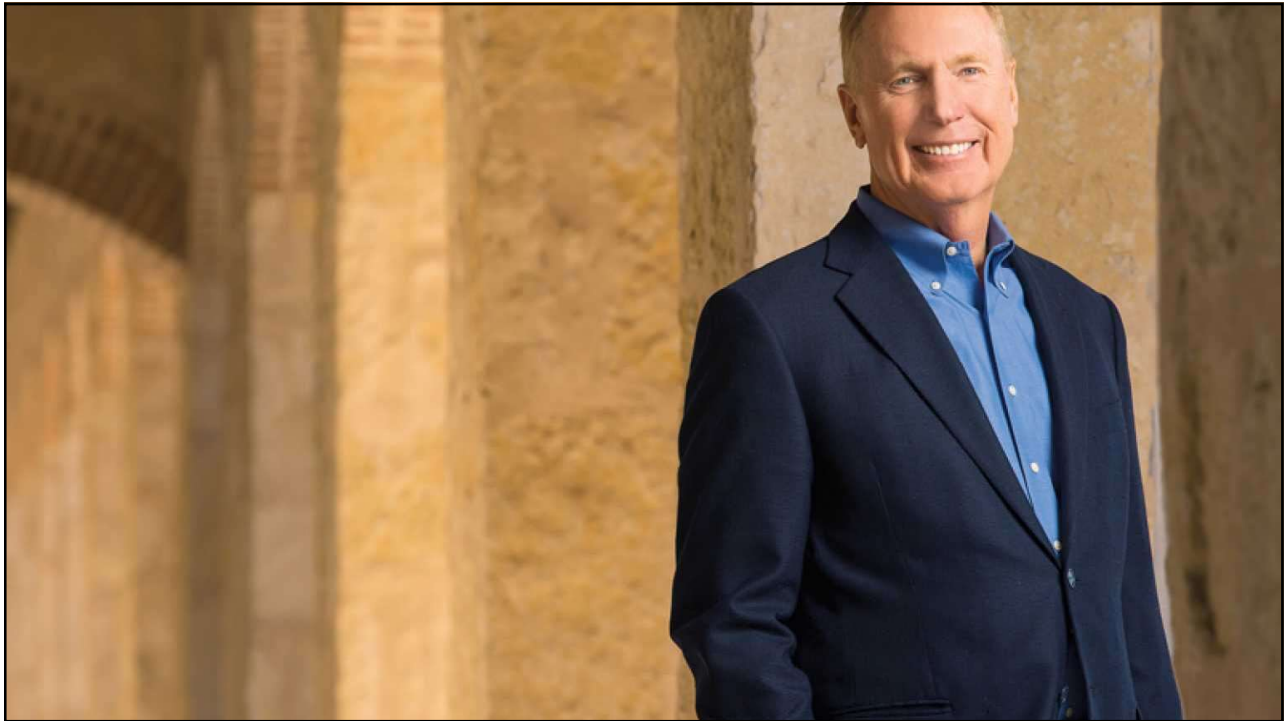


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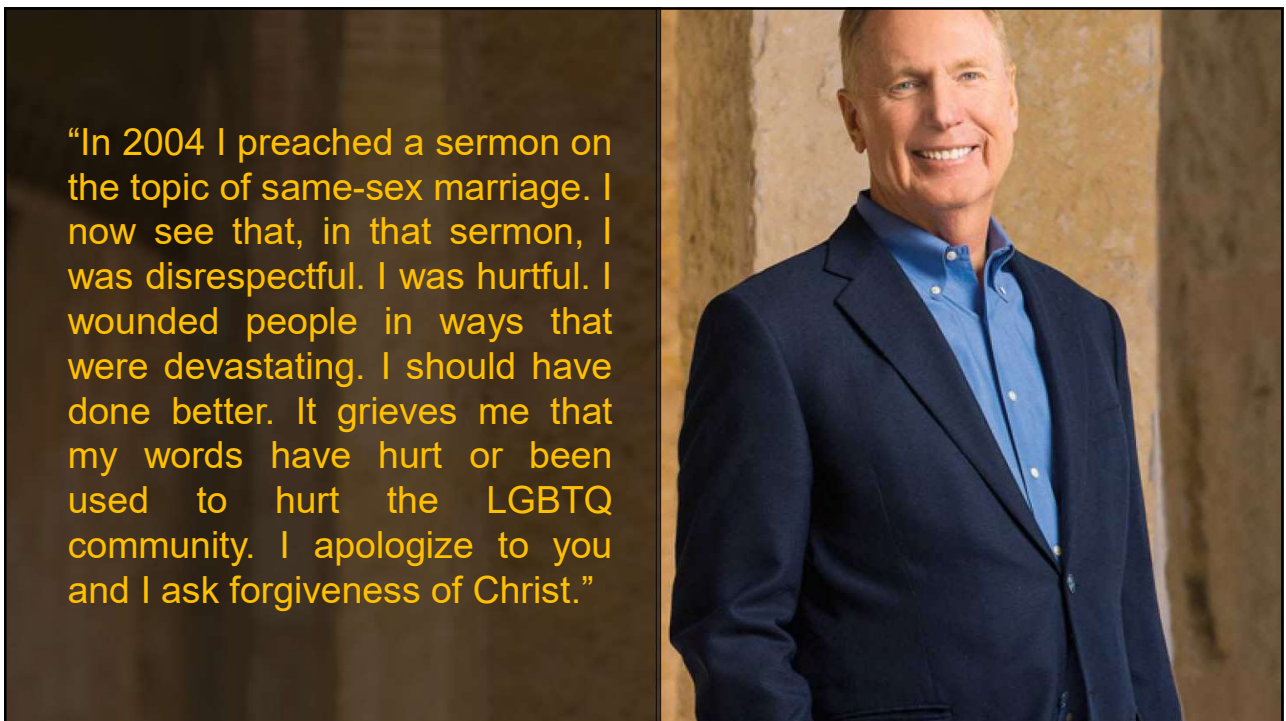
"We must stand up and be among the fiercest advocates for the preservation of the dignity and the rights of LGBTQ people. Because we recognize that gay and lesbian people are essentially just like us; people made in the image of God, like us, and deserving of all the dignity and respect we desire for us or our children." J.D. Greear



10

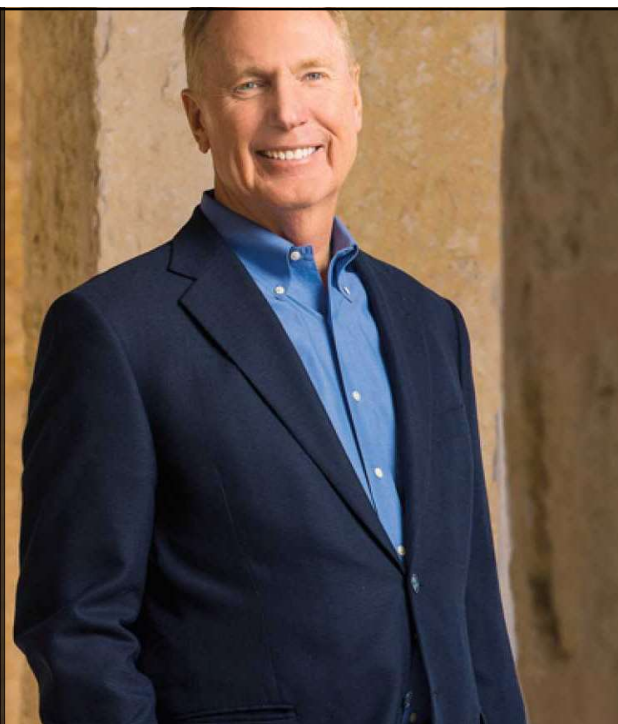


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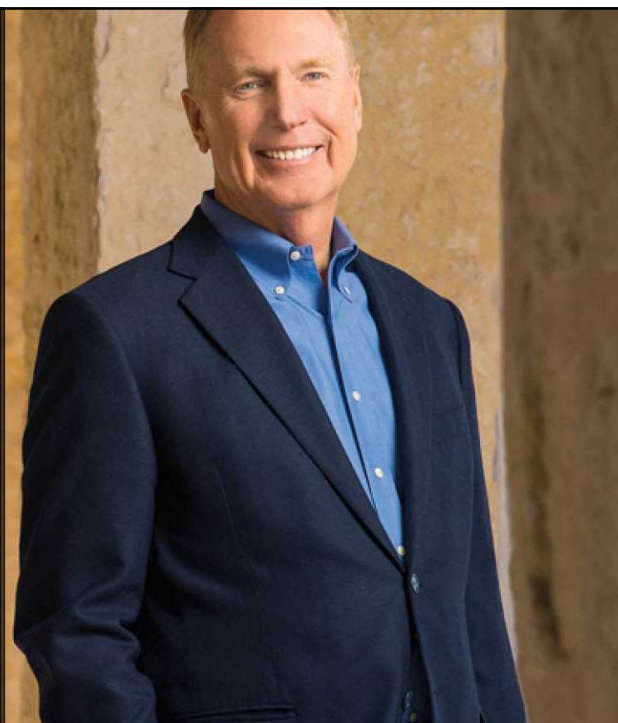
“... we agree that God’s holy Word must never be used as a weapon to wound others. To be clear, I believe in the traditional biblical understanding of marriage, but I also believe in a God of unbounded grace and love. LGBTQ individuals and LGBTQ families must be respected and treated with love. They are beloved children of God because, they are made in the image and likeness of God.”



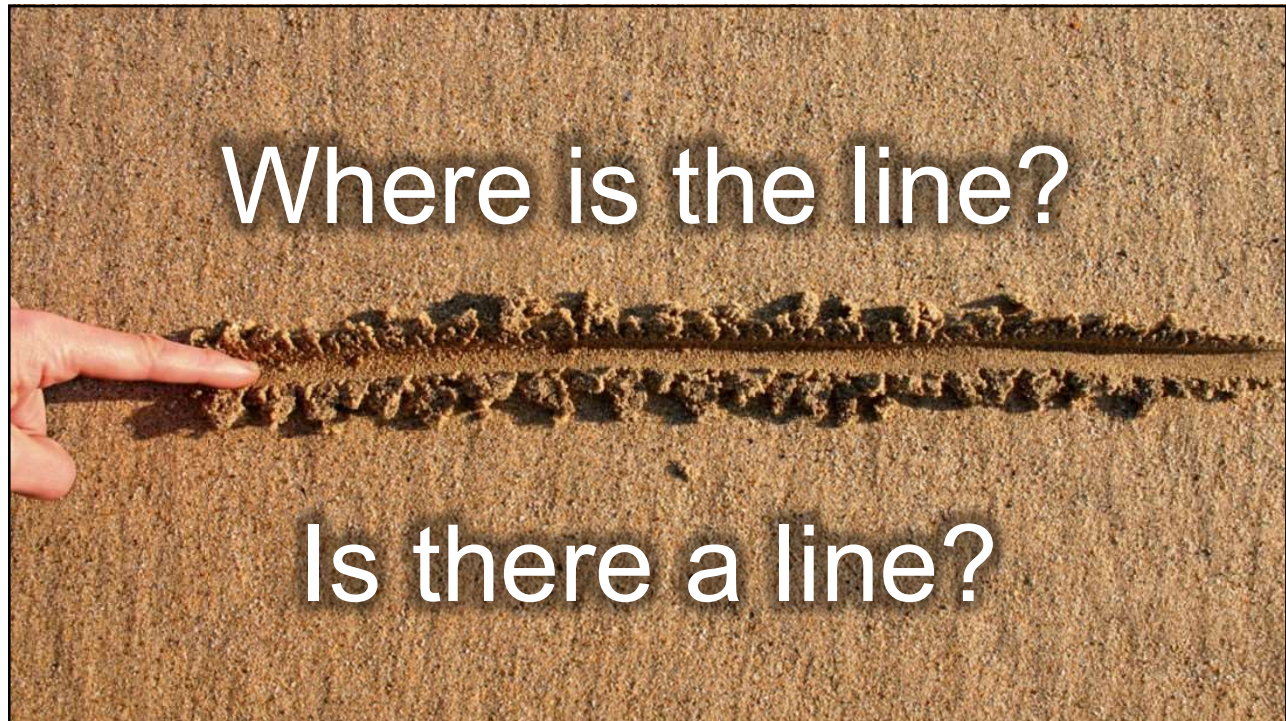
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The 2004 sermon said:

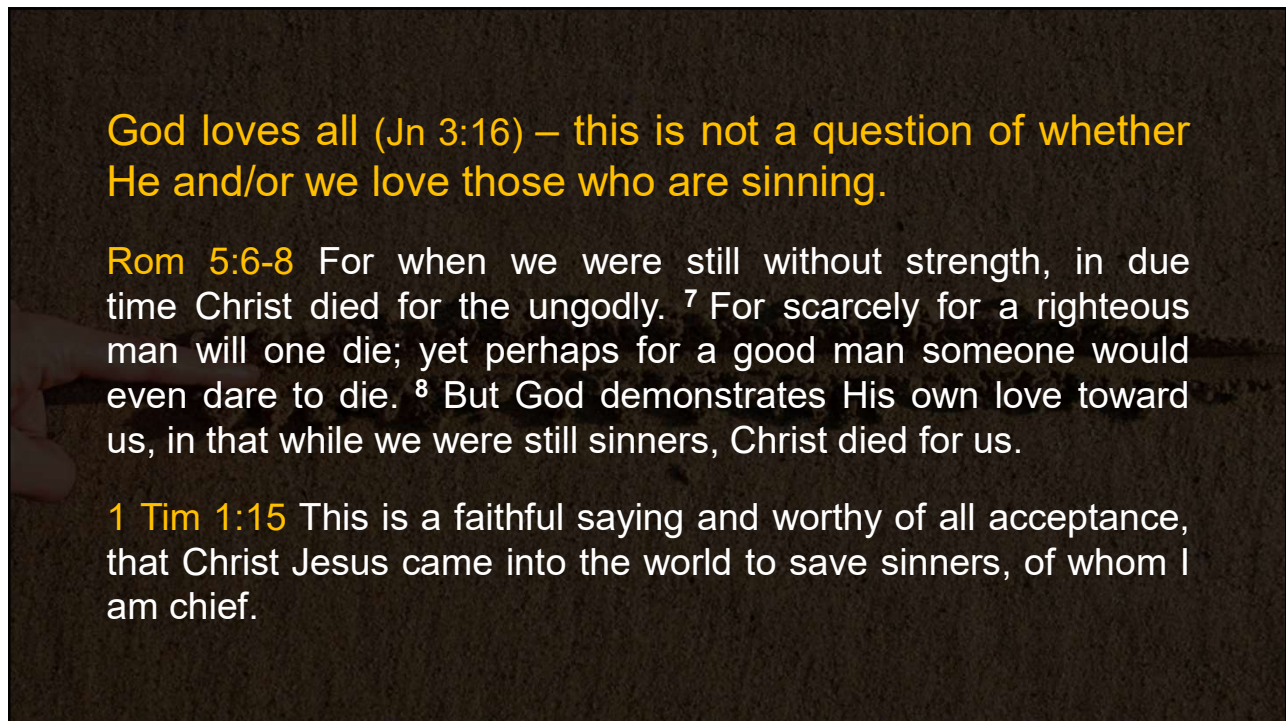
“How will homosexuality impact our culture? What about the spread of disease? If gay lifestyle and gay marriage are endorsed – what follows? Polygamy? Legalized incest? If we can't draw a line, will lines be drawn at all? Men and women were not intended for identical gender but [the] opposite.”



14



15



16

This issue is also not that hard to understand from a biblical perspective.

Conservative, evangelical pastor in Mississippi:

“Having a discussion about something as complex as human sexuality and God's plan for that, what the Old Testament and, more importantly, what the New Testament teach about that ... that is a really detailed, nuanced conversation.”

17

Lev 18:22-24 You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination. ²³ Nor shall you mate with any animal, to defile yourself with it. Nor shall any woman stand before an animal to mate with it. It is perversion. ²⁴ ‘Do not defile yourselves with any of these things;

Lev 20:13 If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death. Their blood shall be upon them.

18

Rom 1:26-27 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

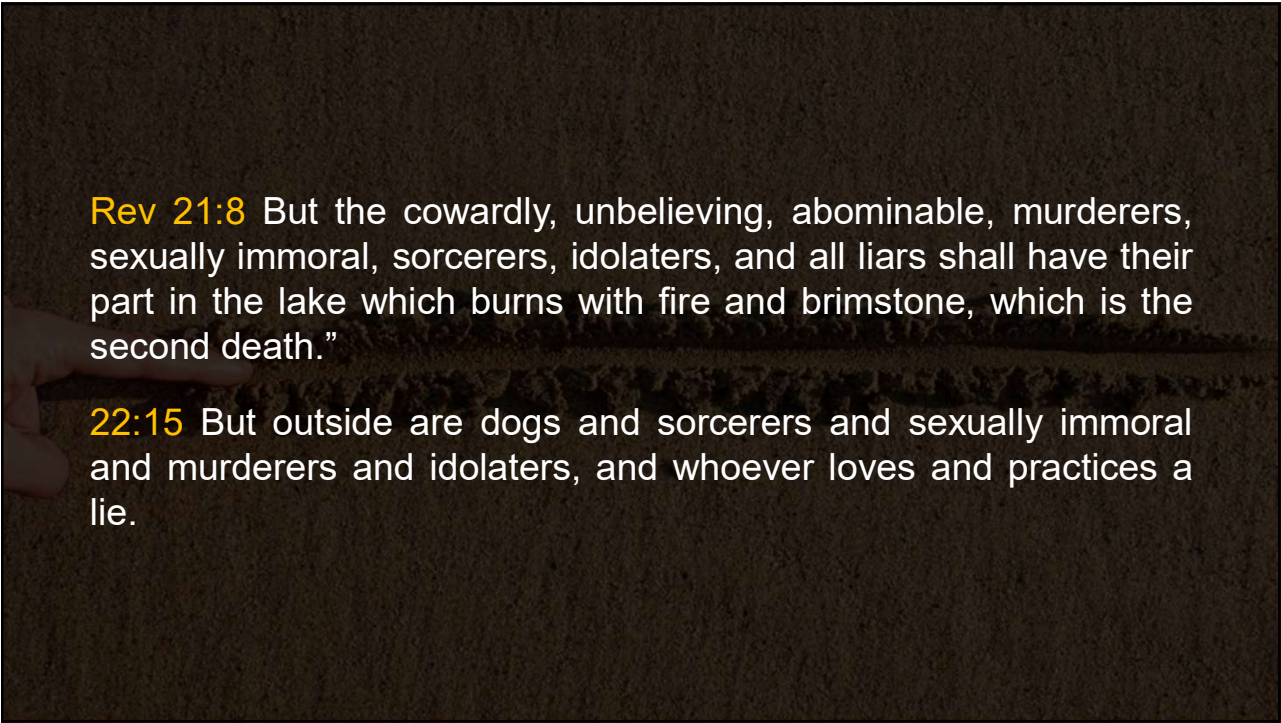
1 Cor 6:9-10 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

19

1 Tim 1:9-10 knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, ¹⁰ for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine,

Jude 7 as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

20



Rev 21:8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

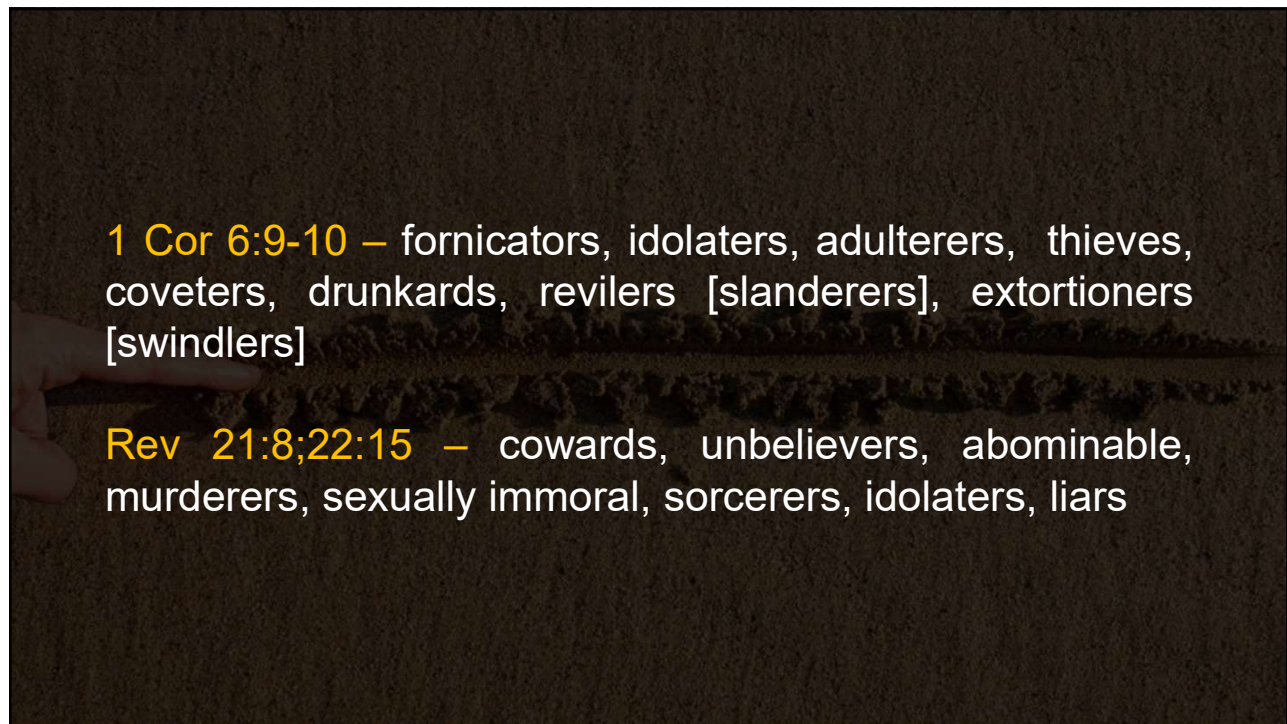
22:15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

21

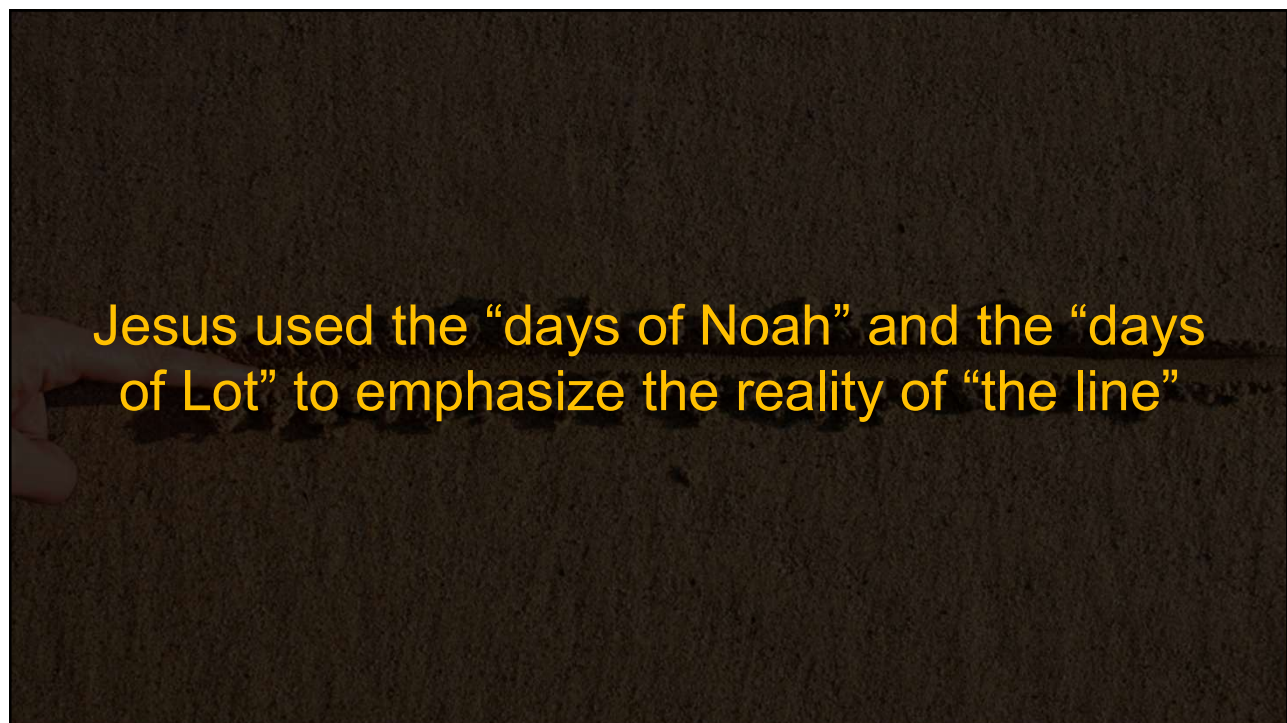


Obviously, according to those passages, there is a line.

22



23



24

Mt 24:38-39 But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and did not know until the flood came and took them all away

Lk 17:27 They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

Lk 17:28-29 Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; ²⁹ but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.

25

They were:

- eating
- drinking
- marrying
- giving in marriage
- buying
- selling
- planting
- building

26

Mt 24:38-39 But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and **did not know until** the flood came and took them all away

27

Gen 6:1-6 Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, ² that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. ³ And the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not strive [abide] with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." ... ⁵ Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually [all the day]. ⁶ And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

28

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30

Gen 19:4-11 Now before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both old and young, all the people from every quarter, surrounded the house. ⁵ And they called to Lot and said to him, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them carnally." ⁶ So Lot went out to them through the doorway, shut the door behind him, ⁷ and said, "Please, my brethren, do not do so wickedly! ⁹ And they said, "Stand back!" Then they said, "This one came in to stay here, and he keeps acting as a judge; now we will deal worse with you than with them." So they pressed hard against the man Lot, and came near to break down the door. ¹⁰ But the men reached out their hands and pulled Lot into the house with them, and shut the door. ¹¹ And they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they became weary [wore themselves out, ESV] trying to find the door.

31

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32



2 Pet 2:6-8 and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;

33

There is always hope to those who will repent:



1 Cor 6:11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

34

Heb 3:7-8,11-12 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you will hear His voice, ⁸ Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion ¹¹ So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.' " ¹² Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God

1 Tim 4:1-3 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, ² speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, ³ forbidding to marry ...