

## **QLBC's Position on Homosexuality**

Ratified January 2010

### **Beliefs about Homosexual Behavior and Ministering to Homosexual Persons**

Our affirmation that the Bible is the infallible Word of God with supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct, and our affirmation that all Christians should live for the glory of God include the following beliefs about heterosexuality and homosexuality. We state the following as a guide for our ministry with the conviction that obedience to God's will is always for our best and His standards are born out of His love for humanity.

1. We believe that heterosexuality is God's revealed will for humankind and that the biblical expression of this orientation is chastity for the single person and fidelity for the married partner. (Gen. 2:24-25, Heb. 13:4)
2. We believe that a homosexual attraction is a result of the fall of humanity into a sinful condition that pervades every person. Whatever biological or family history roots of same sex attraction may be discovered, we do not believe that these would sanction or excuse homosexual behavior, though they would deepen our compassion and patience for those who are struggling to be free from sexual temptations. (Rom. 1:24-27, 1 Cor. 6:9)
3. We believe there is hope for the person with a same sex attraction and that Jesus Christ offers a healing alternative in which the power of sin is broken and the person is freed to know and experience his or her true identity in Christ and in the fellowship of his Church. (1 Cor. 6:9-11)
4. We believe that the homosexually attracted person is called to a process which includes recognizing homosexual behavior as sin, renouncing the practice of homosexual behavior, rediscovering healthy, non-erotic friendships with people of the same sex, embracing a moral sexual lifestyle, and in the age to come, rising from the dead with a new body free from every sinful impulse. This process parallels the similar process of sanctification needed in dealing with heterosexual temptations as well. We believe that this freedom comes through faith in Jesus Christ, by the power of his Spirit. (1 Peter 1:14-16)

5. We believe that all persons have been created in the image of God and should be accorded human dignity. We believe therefore that hateful, fearful, harassment of persons with a same sex attraction should be repudiated. We believe that respect for persons with a same sex attraction involves honest, reasoned, nonviolent sharing of facts concerning the immorality and liability of homosexual behavior. (1 Peter 3:15)
  
6. We believe that Christian churches should reach out in love and truth to minister to people touched by homosexuality, and that those who contend biblically against their own sexual temptation should be patiently assisted in their battle, not ostracized or disdained. (John 13:35)
  
7. We believe that this balance of biblical accountability and loving nurture applies to all areas of temptation and sin as all persons are sinners. Since sin destroys we are called to humble and helpful community with one another, valuing God's standards as his loving guidance. (Rom. 3:23, 1 John 5:3)