

Cross Walk Church
Position Statement: Homosexuality

It must be first understood that all human beings are sinners who have fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). No matter how much one might try, there is simply no human way for sinners to please God (Romans 8:8). However, by the grace of God, He gives sinners what they do not deserve; eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Having very briefly stated man's spiritual condition, it is important to recognize that God does not love us because there is something special about us. God loves sinners because it's in His nature to do so (Romans 5:8). Since all humans are sinners and have fallen short of God's glory, then no sin is so great that God cannot forgive the sinner.

When the Bible gives a list of sins, there may be some that seem more harmless or more evil than others. But if committing only one sin condemns the sinner to eternal punishment (James 2:10), then all sins are evil.

Jesus gave a summary of the greatest commandment: Love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. He then added another which He declared to be equal with the first: Love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:37-40). Instead of declaring that sinners were beyond love, Jesus declared that sinners need to be loved.

Homosexuality is sin, just like lying is sin or stealing is sin. It's not sin because any human being declared it to be sin, but because God declared it to be sin in the Old Testament (Leviticus 20:13) and in the New Testament (1 Corinthians 6:9-10 ESV): *Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.*

Legalizing gay marriage will never make homosexuality not sinful. The practice of homosexuality is sin, has always been sin and will always continue to be sin. No human being, court or piece of legislation will ever be able to make homosexuality not sinful. The natural consequences for those who are in homosexual relationships are hardened hearts and seared consciences toward this sinful practice.

The good news is that Jesus Christ died to save sinners from their sin. Sin can be forgiven and lives can be changed for the glory of God. The Apostle Paul continued on in 1 Corinthians 6 with his declaration about the cleansing power of God: *And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God* (1 Corinthians 6:11 ESV).

Stating that homosexuality is a sin in no way degrades the person. In fact just the opposite is true. Declaring homosexuality to be a sin gives hope to the person who feels trapped in this lifestyle. Forgiveness is available, and restoration and reconciliation with God are the gifts of salvation available to all who call on Jesus Christ.