

The Life Challenge

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Series: Embodied: Faith, Sexuality & Gender

Title: Our Purpose

Speaker: Matt Ewert

Date: November 14, 2021



WARM-UP

What cliché's (ie. "Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve") or stereotypes can you think have that have been used by Christians in speaking about, or to, the LGBTQ+ community?

- List as many as you can think of.
- What might be unhelpful or damaging about each of these?

DISCUSSION

Think about a missionary bringing the message of the gospel to a foreign culture.

- What would that missionary need to do to be effective? What strategies might they employ? What barriers might they need to overcome? What might they need to learn?
- In what way might the answers to those questions apply to bringing the gospel to the LGBTQ+ community?

Read the story of the "Woman and the Well" in John 4:4-30, 39-42.

- What do you notice about Jesus' interaction with this woman?
- What social boundaries does Jesus cross?
- How does the woman respond?
- What is the result of this encounter?
- What can we learn from Jesus as we watch what he says and does in this story?

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DISCUSSION

Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

- In your own words, express what you believe Paul is trying to communicate in this passage.
- How might Paul's point in this passage apply to a Christians posture towards the LGBTQ+ community?

PRAYER

- Spend time praying that God would help us learn what it looks like for us to have a missionary posture towards the LGBTQ+ community.
- Ask God for wisdom in knowing the difference between altering the gospel, and simply altering our posture to more helpfully convey the gospel as we try to bring Jesus to our world.
- Invite God to give you opportunity to cross paths with LGBTQ+ people in your everyday life, and that His love might be conveyed to them through you.