

# The Life Challenge

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

**Series: Embodied: Faith, Sexuality & Gender**

**Title: Our Posture**

**Speaker: Matt Ewert**

**Date: November 7, 2021**



## WARM-UP

**Now that we've completed the first two weeks of this teaching series, talking about issues of "position" and "posture" related to the church and the LGBTQ+ community, what are the things that have most stood out to you?**

## DISCUSSION

**Read the following four stories which describe occasions on which Jesus was interacting with different people:**

- Luke 19:1-10
  - Mark 2:15-17
  - John 8:3-11
  - Mark 10:17-22
- 
- In these four accounts, what kind of people does Jesus encounter? Describe as many of them as you can.
  - What kind of posture do you see Jesus taking towards each of these characters? What characterizes these interactions?
  - John 1:14 says that Jesus entered our world "full of grace and truth". Describe how you see grace and truth playing out in these interactions.
  - Do you think any of these characters felt unloved, or condemned, by Jesus? If so, who ... and why do you think that?

# The Life Challenge

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

**Series: Embodied: Faith, Sexuality & Gender**  
**Title: Our Posture**  
**Speaker: Matt Ewert**  
**Date: November 7, 2021**



## DISCUSSION

**Try to apply what you considered in the questions above to the topic of our current teaching series.**

- What do you think an encounter between Jesus and a member of the LGBTQ+ community might look like?

**The following question was asked at Sunday's Town Hall conversation. Take time to discuss it together as a group.**

- Beyond sitting in the pews on Sunday morning, what are meaningful ways LGBTQ+ people could be involved in our church? Or, do you feel an LGBTQ+ person couldn't be involved in the life of our church beyond sitting in a pew on Sunday morning?
- Regardless of your answer, try to explain the "why" behind your thoughts.

## PRAYER

**If, within your group, there are those who have a friend or family member who is part of the LGBTQ+ community, take time to pray for that person.**

- Pray that they would have experiences with Christians who would embody the love of Jesus to them and be safe people to be in relationship with.

**Pray that our church would become a safe space, for those struggling with issues related to gender and sexuality, to wrestle with those issues.**