

HUMAN

SEXUALITY

**God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.
(Genesis 1:27)**



**‘It is not good that the man should be
alone; I will make a helper suitable for him.’
(Genesis 2:18)**



**‘Bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh.’
(Genesis 2:23)**



Therefore, a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. (Genesis 2:24)



**‘Therefore what God has joined together,
let no one separate.’
(Matthew 19:6)**



Song of Songs



For your maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name. (Isaiah 54:5)

As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. (Isaiah 62:5)



For your maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name. (Isaiah 54:5)

As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. (Isaiah 62:5)

**‘In that day, you will call me,
‘My husband’... and I will
take you for my wife forever.’
(Hosea 2:16, 19)**



**Let us rejoice and be glad and give
him glory! For the wedding of the
Lamb has come, and his bride has
made herself ready.
(Revelation 19:7)**







**‘God is love, and those who live in
love live in God, and God in them.’**

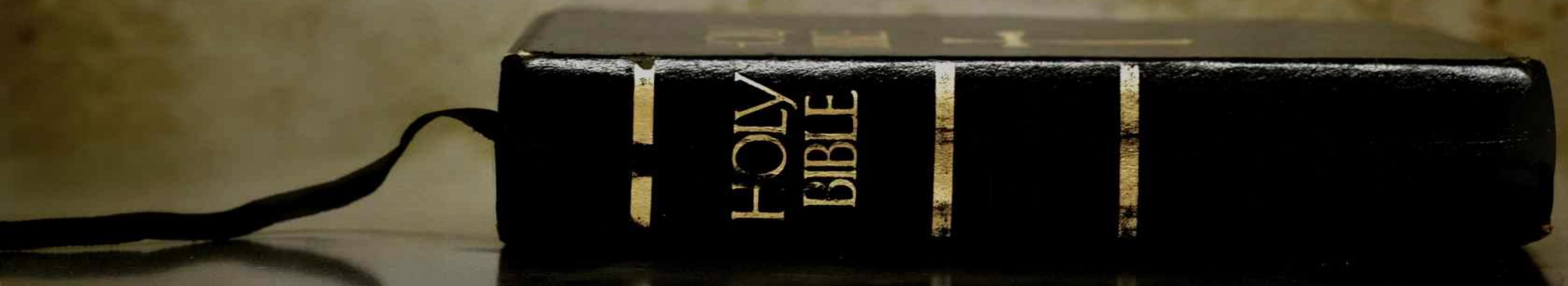
(1 John 4:16)



God is Love

Can a loving, committed, exclusive, *same-sex* relationship also be a place where God's love is experienced and reflected, and in which his blessing can be received?

The Bible needs interpreting
The Bible needs interpreting around Jesus
Interpret the Scriptures by the Scriptures
Consider the context of a passage



Genesis 19:1-11:

Two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of the city. When he saw them, he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground. ‘My lords,’ he said, ‘please turn aside to your servant’s house. You can wash your feet and spend the night and then go on your way early in the morning.’

Genesis 19:1-11:

‘No,’ they answered, ‘we will spend the night in the square.’

But Lot insisted so strongly that they did go with him and entered his house. He prepared a meal for them. Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom – both young and old – surrounded the house.

Genesis 19:1-11:

They called to Lot, ‘Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them.’

Lot went outside to meet them and shut the door behind him and said, ‘No, my friends. Don’t do this wicked thing. Look, I have two daughters who have never slept with a man.

Genesis 19:1-11:

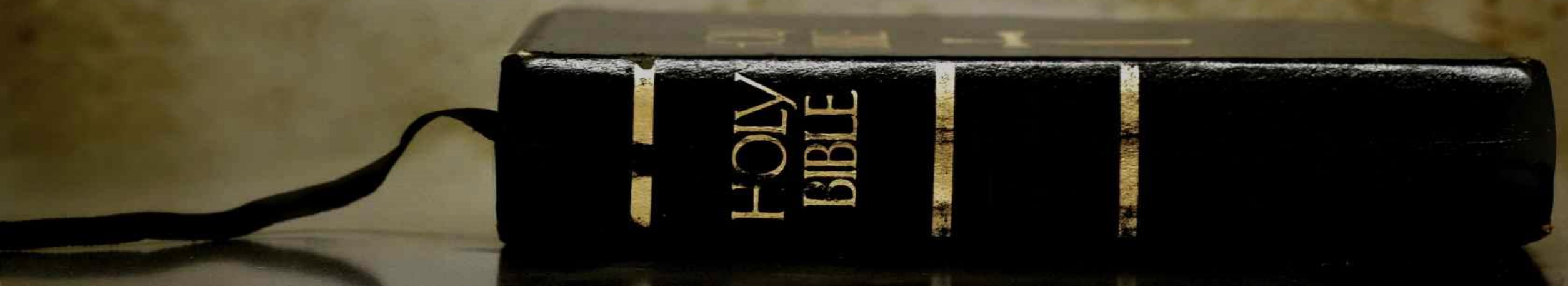
Let me bring them out to you, and you can do what you like with them. But don't do anything to these men, for they have come under the protection of my roof.'

'Get out of our way,' they replied. 'This fellow came here as a foreigner, and now he wants to play the judge! We'll treat you worse than them.'

Genesis 19:1-11:

They kept bringing pressure on Lot and moved forward to break down the door. But the men inside reached out and pulled Lot back into the house and shut the door. Then they struck the men who were at the door of the house, young and old, with blindness so that they could not find the door.

Genesis 19:1-11



Judges 19:16-25:

That evening an old man from the hill country of Ephraim, who was living in Gibeah, came in from his work in the fields. When he looked and saw the traveller in the city square, the old man asked, 'Where are you going? Where did you come from?'

Judges 19:16-25:

He answered, 'We are on our way from Bethlehem in Judah to a remote area in the hill country of Ephraim where I live. I have been to Bethlehem in Judah and now I am going to the house of the Lord. No one has taken me in for the night...

Judges 19:16-25:

We have both straw and fodder for our donkeys and bread and wine for ourselves your servants – me, the woman and the young man with us. We don't need anything.' 'You are welcome at my house,' the old man said. 'Let me supply whatever you need. Only don't spend the night in the square.' So he took him into his house and fed his donkeys.

Judges 19:16-25:

After they had washed their feet, they had something to eat and drink. While they were enjoying themselves, some of the wicked men of the city surrounded the house. Pounding on the door, they shouted to the old man who owned the house, 'Bring out the man who came to your house so we can have sex with him.'

Judges 19:16-25:

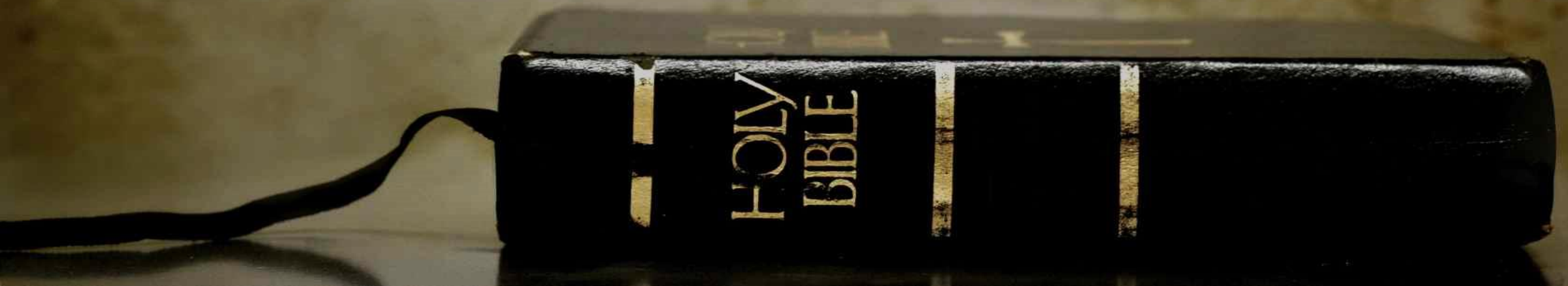
The owner of the house went outside and said to them, 'No, my friends, don't be so vile. Since this man is my guest, don't do this outrageous thing. Look, here is my virgin daughter, and his concubine. I will bring them out to you now, and you can use them and do to them whatever you wish. But as for this man, don't do such an outrageous thing.'

Judges 19:16-25:

But the men would not listen to him. So the man took his concubine and sent her outside to them, and they raped her and abused her throughout the night, and at dawn they let her go.

Genesis 19:1-11

Judges 19:16-25



Leviticus 18:22

Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable.

Leviticus 20:13

If a man has sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They are to be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

**Do not have sexual relations with an animal and defile yourself with it.
A woman must not present herself to an animal to have sexual relations with it; that is a perversion.**

(Leviticus 18:23)

Leviticus 18:22

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Leviticus 20:13

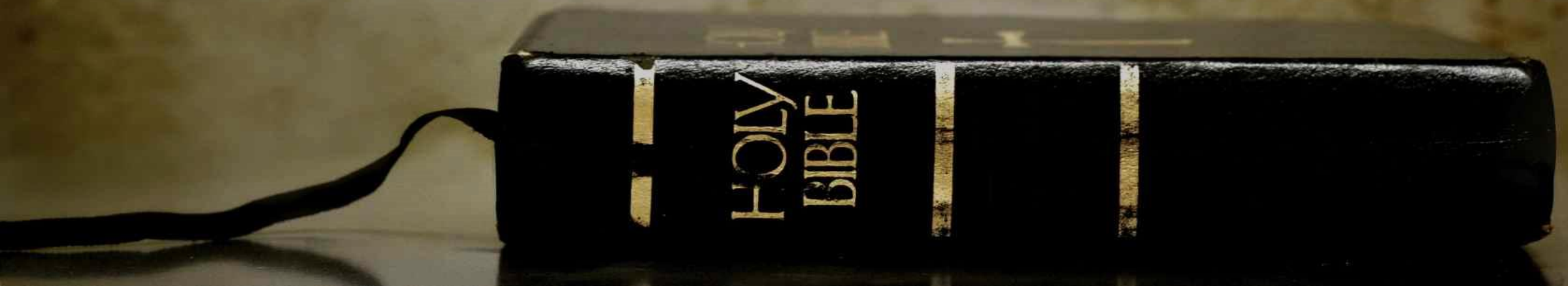
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Genesis 19:1-11

Judges 19:16-25

Leviticus 18:22

Leviticus 20:13



1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality, or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people - none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

**Male prostitutes
= 'malakoi'**

**Practice homosexuality
= 'arsenokoitai'**

1 Timothy 1:8-11

We know that the law is good when used correctly. For the law was not intended for people who do what is right. It is for people who are lawless and rebellious, who are ungodly and sinful, who consider nothing sacred and defile what is holy, who kill their father or mother or commit other murders.

1 Timothy 1:8-11

The law is for people who are sexually immoral, or who practice homosexuality, or are slave traders, liars, promise breakers, or who do anything else that contradicts the wholesome teaching that comes from the glorious Good News entrusted to me by our blessed God.

1 Timothy 1:8-11

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Romans 1:26-27:

Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

**‘Does not the very nature of things
teach you that if a man has long
hair, it is a disgrace to him?’**

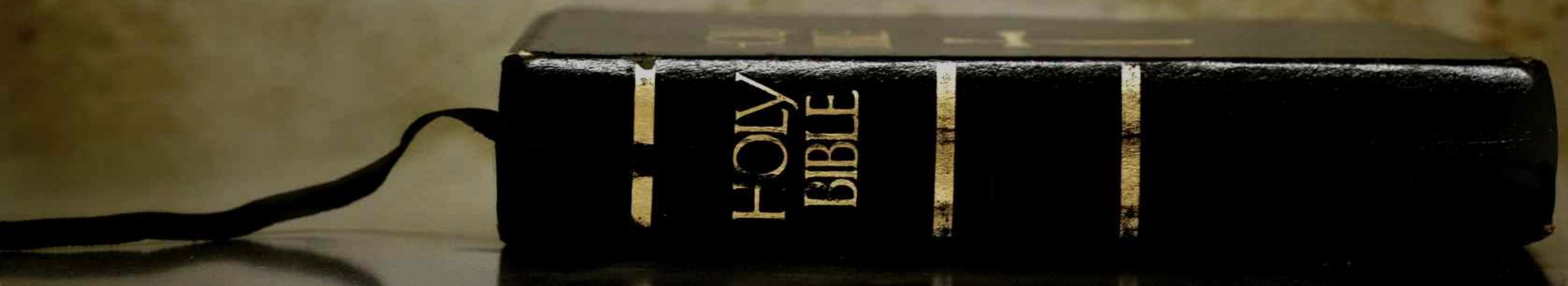
(1 Corinthians 11:14)

Romans 1:26-27:

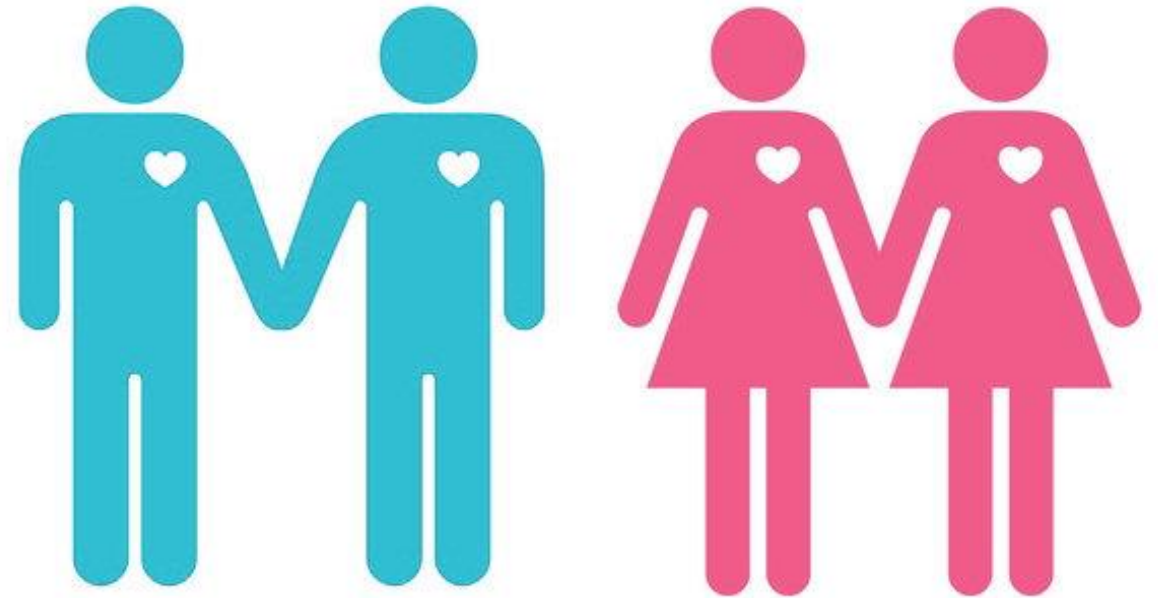
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Romans 1:26-27



**Anatomy
Procreation
Choice
Taste**



HUMAN

SEXUALITY



Can a loving, committed, exclusive, *same-sex* relationship be a place where God's love is experienced and reflected, and in which his blessing can be received?

A gold ring is positioned in the upper center of the image, resting on a page of text. The ring is simple and circular, with a polished surface that reflects light. The text on the page is in a serif font and is slightly out of focus, with the words "God is Love" being the most prominent and sharp text in the image.

God is Love

comes of God and not know how he showed his love among us: He sent his only Son into the world that we might live through this is love: not that we loved God, but that God sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice. Dear friends, since God so loves us, we must love one another. 12 No one