

How to Glorify God: Session 2

By David Hocking

David Hocking:

Thank you for those who have wanted to make me a part. I have the Biola T-shirt that's going out of sale. I asked if it was a double X. They said it was an XL and it's very big. So praise God.

Amen. And of course, all of you have one. Amen. You have it. And you paid for. Sure yeah.

How many of you were here yesterday at the seminar session on how to glorify God? May I see

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...[audio continues] for you. And hopefully we'll save a little time to do that. We're talking about

how to glorify God, which should be the main purpose of every believer. It's what the Holy

Spirit, by the way, according to the Bible, wants to do through our lives to glorify Jesus Christ,

John 16:14, whether we eat or we drink or whatever we do, we're to do all to the glory of God.

The character of God deserves it. We learned about that. Who God is. And secondly, the creation

of God demands it by an all priori claim he can do whatever he wants to. There was no one else

who was God, and he made everything to glorify him. And we learned in Revelation 4 that the

24 elders who we believe represents a completed body of the church in heaven, they fall down

and worship the Lord and say that He's worthy to receive glory because he created all things and

for His pleasure, they are and were created.

So then we began asking once we found out why we should glorify God, how do we glorify

God? And we start it with one basic point, and that is our salvation. Our salvation when you

really come to know the Lord glorifies God for at least three reasons. One because it exalts God's

power. It takes God's power to save you. Two because it exalts God's grace. Grace gives you

what you don't deserve. Therefore, we have nothing to boast of. Therefore, all glory goes to God. And third, our salvation gives glory to God because it exalts God's son. God has highly exalted Him and given him a name that is above every name that at the name of Jesus. Every knee should bow and every tongue should confess that he is Lord to the glory of God, the Father.

When you confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior and your Lord. God, the Father is glorified. That's what the Bible says. Now, the second we're ready for the second. Those of you who weren't with us, we just caught up real quick. The second way in which we glorify God. Turn, please to 1 Corinthians 6. We actually hit on this a little bit in our message on why we need the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 6. You also glorify God by your separation from sinful practices, not only by your salvation, but your separation from sinful practices, you actually glorify God. If our main purpose is to glorify God, how do we do that? I read in 1 Corinthians 6, beginning at verse 15. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot or prostitute? Certainly not. Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot or a prostitute, is one body with her for the two, he says, shall become one flesh.

But he who has joined to the Lord, is one Spirit with him. Flee sexual immorality. Stop right there. After mentioning that in our message on why we need the Holy Spirit, I had a question by several students on what exactly is sexual immorality? Actually, I think that is probably in some respects a soft term. By that, I mean, is a lot could be discussed. Sexual immorality is an English attempt to translate a very common Greek word, porneia from which we get pornography. And when we look at porneia and you look at it in Greek times, the times in which the Bible was

written porneia is described to be sexual intercourse outside of legal marriage. In Roman society, and somebody asked me this about what I said about living together. In Roman society, you had an actual marriage situation that is the same as living together is today.

There are actually four different kinds of marriage relationships in Roman society, and one of them was living together. And it's interesting that porneia applies to people who live together. That is, sexual immorality is also living together. According to the exact definition, it's having intercourse outside of legal marriage. Everything, therefore, that involves sexual practice outside of marriage has been generally dumped into the category of sexual immorality. Let me give you some examples. The same word, for instance, would refer to homosexuality in the Old Testament. It's a form of porneia. Another example would be incest. It's a form of porneia. Another example would be adultery. It's a form of porneia. Another example of sex before marriage. It's a form of porneia. Another example is sex with animals. It's a form of porneia. What I'm trying to say is that porneia P-O-R-N-E-I-A so you can read it in any concordance and look it up for yourself.

Porneia is the general term for the wrong use of sexual desire outside of legal marriage, a marriage that's built on commitment and vow. Now let's come back to verse 18 again. Don't judge my opinions on it. Look at the Bible for yourself. It's easy to read it and to get the point, it says flee sexual immorality. That's what it says. Now watch the next verse, which has now become the most controversial verse on the sex issue in Christianity today. This is the most controversial verse. You'll see why, in just a moment. Every sin it says that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. More about that in a

minute. For do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you and you are not your own for you were bought at a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are gods.

Any person here in this audience who stays away from sexual sin is actually glorifying God in your physical body by what you're refusing to do. You say, David, how can I glorify God in my life? Well, one thing is when you get saved, OK, I've already saved. Now, as a Christian, how do I glorify God? Well, for one thing, stay away from sexual sin. So don't tell me you're glorifying God if you're involved in sexual sin. You are contradicting the plain statements of the Bible. Flee, it says, sexual immorality. Now, what's the meaning of the verse that's so controversial today that every sin a man does is outside of the body. But one sin is against his own body. Everybody seems afraid of this because of the AIDS epidemic. Because of the dangers of social and sexual diseases, people today are backing off of it. Wherever I go in various cities, people ask me, do you think AIDS is a judgment of God?

And I usually answer is the sky blue and the grass green or the Pope Catholic? Hey, what are we talking here? Of course, it's a judgment of God. That does not mean that there aren't innocent people being trapped by it, whether it's through blood transfusion or somebody's terrible transference of this to somebody else. Hey, I know there are innocent people involved in this, but that does not excuse the issue. It is a judgment of God. My dear friends, all sexual disease is a judgment of God. And sometimes innocent people are being caught in this terrible society problem that we have. That was true of every judgment of God that God ever brought upon any society. There were always innocent people that have to suffer because the majority were being

dealt with on that issue. Now, what does it mean that you sin against your own body when every other sin is outside of the body?

Evidently every other sin affects the soul and your relationship to God. But there's one sin that not only affects that causes turmoil in you emotionally causes a lack of fellowship with God himself. But there's one sin that also has a physical consequence on your physical body. It's sexual immorality. Now, what in the world does that mean? We have the following possibilities. Number one, it means a loss of sexual vitality. That argument is found in Proverbs 5, would you turn there please? Proverbs 5? How do we glorify God? There has never been in my recollection of my years of ministry, there has never been a greater need to understand this issue of how to glorify God in your physical body than today. The high toleration of sexual sin, the attitude that it's okay has really done a number on all of us that we all have needs, and therefore we got to do something about it.

And many people tell me that it's Christian love to help somebody in a physical sexual need. We have changed the vocabulary so much that often when you're talking to somebody about it, they'll say he or she ministers to me. Now, when I grew up, ministering meant using your spiritual gifts. Today, it often is referring to having sexual relationship with somebody. How things change over time. In Proverbs 5, I read this verse seven. Therefore, hear me now. My children do not depart from the words of my mouth. Remove your way far from her. Talking about the prostitute that's been discussed in the early chapters. Do not go near the door of her house, lest you give your honor to others and your ears to the cruel one. Lest aliens be filled with your wealth and your neighbors go to the house of a foreigner. And you mourn at last. Watch

this. When your flesh and your body are consumed. And say how I have hated instruction, my heart despise reproof. I have not obeyed the voice of my teachers nor inclined my ear to those who instructed me. I was on the verge of total ruin in the midst of the congregation and assembly.

Here's the command. Drink water from your own cistern and running water from your own well. It's speaking of marriage, as is clear in just a moment in verse 18, and it's graphically portraying sexual vitality. Verse 16, Should your fountains be dispersed abroad? That's an old King Jimmy way of covering up a very obvious point dealing with sexual vitality and the use of the male sperm. Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, streams of water in the streets. Let them be only your own and not for strangers with you. Let your fountain be blessed if you want to take it in its simplest way, in a mixed audience to discuss it, the word fountain would represent the sexual vitality of your life, the sexual energy of your life. Now, God says, Let that be blessed. God wants us to be blessed that way. How? Verse 18. Rejoice. The Hebrew word. Take my word for it. You could study it for yourself later. Literally means Go bonkers. We're talking flipping out here. We're not talking passively looking at your wife and saying, hey, How's it going?

We're talking about getting wild about it. It says, Rejoice with the wife of your youth. And some guys say, Well, she's not young anymore. I did when we got married. But look at her now. Hey, let me tell you something. The phrase the wife of your youth is talking about the commitment you made. And it's a reminder to us of the vow that we have spoken, which is the bottom line of every marriage. The Bible says it's better not to vow than to vow and not pay. Till death do us part is still the Bible's truth about marriage. Now, according to the Bible, your fountain, the

sexual vitality of your life can be greatly blessed, it says. And you rejoice with the wife of your youth as a loving dear and a graceful doe. Let her breast satisfy you at all times and always be enraptured or intoxicated with her love. Hebrew word Love is lovemaking. We're talking about sex here. And why should you, my son, be enraptured by an immoral woman and be embraced in the arms of a seductress. For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and he ponders all his paths, his own iniquities and trapped the wicked man.

And he's caught in the cords of his sin. He shall die for lack of instruction, and in the greatness of his folly, he shall go astray. And there's more stuff on it in chapter 6. What I'm trying to say is that when you sin against your own body, you can have the possibility of the following things. One a loss of sexual vitality and energy. What we actually see, although they never ask people like me to go on the talk shows and talk about this. But what we actually see happening to people who have been profligate, that is, they've been making it with everybody under the sun and living it up with many sexual partners is not simply a disease problem. We see an energy problem. And there are many people in midlife who no longer can do what they once did sexually because they have been immoral. That is so well known. It's a shock to me when I hear secular people reporting in the media that somehow that's not so. The implication of our movies and television of your superstud and messing around with everybody that somehow you can keep it going all of your life is a lie from the pit of hell.

And it's about time somebody said so. You want to glorify God then stay away from sexual sin, not because God's punishing you and trying to keep you from being happy. But God is actually protecting and guaranteeing the sexual energy and vitality of your life to last to all your merry

days. And when you get older, it does not diminish. When people told me that when I was a young man, I had no recourse. I had no way to challenge it. All I knew is what the Bible said. But then after I got older, I knew they were wrong. Dead wrong. God's standards are always a protection for us that we might have the greatest enjoyment and greatest satisfaction possible. Loss of sexual vitality would be one sin that you would commit against your own body by having sexual sin.

Number two would be sexual disease itself. It's implied in Proverbs 5, verse 11. It's also implied in Romans 1, where God gave them up to their own depravity and they received in their own persons the due penalty of their heir. Sinning against your own body does mean sexual disease. Now friends, listen to me. There are two problems I see among the young. For whatever it's worth, just listen. There's safety in a multitude of counselor. So listen. There are two problems that I see. One, I see the problem of nobody believing that their sexual involvement is actual immorality. I've had people who are Christians look at me straight in my eyes telling me about a sexual encounter they had and said, But it was not immorality. There wasn't anything immoral about it. Here's another one. The Bible calls it harlotry. Bible calls it adultery. And you'd be amazed how many people commit adultery but tell you that it is not adultery.

We're not having an affair. This is deeper than that. I've got a theological word for that. Bologna. Comes from the Greek bologna for your Greek buffs. But anyway, I'm telling you that we're hearing a lot of nonsense today and people are checking off their brains and a lot of us are getting hurt. We're getting really hurt. That's the number one problem is confusion of terms. Listen, if you have sex with somebody who's not your husband or wife, you are in fact,

committing harlotry. According to the Bible, you're a harlot. You're committing adultery if you're married and you have sex with somebody who's already married to somebody else. You are an adulterer or an adulteress. But people today don't want to say that. My friends, that's the first problem. So the confusion of terms the Christian world's making us believe that it's not really that bad what we have been doing, we've just been helping and ministering and loving and all of that.

That's number one problem, number two problem is hiding the facts about sexual disease. No, it's not simply AIDS. Let me tell you, we've had sexual disease a long time. And the facts are that people in their 20s especially, as the recent report came out from the Health Department, are experiencing a colossal problem of sexual disease more than ever before. And folks, it is not a minor problem. It is serious. The facts show on the basis of their limited study of thousands of kids in their 20s, that the fact is one out of every five kid has been hit with sexual disease.

Already. And they're just in their 20s. God says, flee sexual immorality. Every sin you do is outside the body. There's one that is against the body. Now that's the negative side. The positive side is that your body has become the temple of the Holy Spirit of God. Can you imagine how you grieve and quench and resist the Spirit of God when you're involved in something as plain as that in the Bible, clearly wrong and you get involved in it, you are grieving and quenching and resisting the Holy Spirit, and then to piously act like you're on the ball for the Lord is sheer sham, hypocrisy and perhaps abomination in the sight of God.

My friends, we need to get back to some basics. How do I glorify God in my life? By singing a song, by preaching a message, by going to church? It's amazing what we come up with. And God

says, I'll tell you how to glorify God. You stay away from sexual sin. Turn to 2 Timothy, please. Chapter 2. 2 Timothy 2, it says in verse 19, 2 Timothy, chapter 2:19, it says, nevertheless, the solid foundation of God stands. Having this seal, the Lord knows those who are his. And let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity. But in a great house, there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor, some for dishonor. Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified or separated and useful for the master, prepared for every good work. And just so you don't miss the point, look at the next statement. Flee also youthful lust, but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Purity has always been God's standard for people being used of the Lord. You say I want to be used of the Lord. I want to leave this play and I want God to use my life. Great. Then stay away from sexual sin. I was asked yesterday by one of the students here. What do you do if you're already involved? Is there any hope? That matter can be straightened out. Turn, please to 1 Corinthians 6. One gal shared with me that she and her boyfriend are involved sexually and she's deeply disturbed about it. Wants to stop it. Loves him. Doesn't want him to be offended. What do you do? The Bible says flee youthful lust. And as somebody who says they love you does not respond to that, then you better check out on it quick, because that's evidence that their love is not what it should be anyway. They're using you for self-gratification. If you really love somebody, you're willing to say no, that you might thoroughly enjoy them if God chooses that you two be married.

But it's interesting to me how easy it is for us to get away from God's principles. And what do you do if you're involved? How do you change it? How do you get back? Look at 1 Corinthians 6, please. Verse 9. Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Do not be deceived neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the Kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you are washed. You were washed. You were sanctified. You were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the spirit of our God. The good news is that the work of Jesus Christ, our Lord can cleanse you of your sin. Now, when you become a Christian, you kind of know that theologically. That you were forgiven because of Jesus' death on the cross.

But as a Christian, when you get involved now we've got an issue of our sin now. How do we get over this sin problem? How do we stop it? We have to say no. First of all, understand that the work of Christ on the cross is sufficient to provide forgiveness and cleansing for you now as a Christian as surely as before you received Christ. I happen to believe that all sin, past, present and future was nailed to the cross of Jesus Christ. And I'm forgiven. Not because I proved that I won't sin anymore. But I'm forgiven because Jesus has already paid for even the sins that I will commit tomorrow. But that doesn't solve my problem. So how do I get victory over the sinful practice that I have in my life? If you are a Christian, you are not helpless. I've heard people say I just can't help myself. It's just greater than I am. That is not true if you're a Christian.

Now, if you're a non-Christian, I understand it. But if a Christian, you have the Holy Spirit in you and He is the power you need to not carry out the lust of the flesh. So what do you actually

do? Well, for one thing, don't try to hide that it's sin. You need to confess and acknowledge that it's sin. I like Proverbs 28:13 on that one. If you try to cover it, you won't prosper. If you confess and forsake it, you'll find compassion from the Lord. So deal with yourself in terms of recognizing that it is sin and a willingness to confess it to God as well as the person to whom you've committed that sin. Number two, turn, please to Psalm 119, Psalm 119. How do you solve that problem? You really want to glorify God in your life? What do you do? Psalm 119, verse 9. Psalm 119, verse 9. It says, how can a young man cleanse his way? That's a fundamental question. How can you cleanse your way? Answer by taking heed according to your word.

To put it simply by obeying what the Bible says. Look at the next verse. With my whole heart, I have sought you. Evidently half-heartedness never turns out right, saying, Tell me what to do. Or the Bible says, Stay away from sexual sin. The Bible says, don't go near the door of her house. Well I understand that but. The text says, with my whole heart, how much do you want to get freedom? The next verse says, Your word I have hidden in my heart that I might not sin against you. The power is in the word. The Holy Spirit uses the word. You obey what the Bible says. It has many details about sexual involvements and encounters you can read it step by step. Let me give you something a little humorous. Do you know it actually tells you that if you got a problem with somebody you're sexually attracted?

You got a problem going that you must be careful about using fufu juice. He said, what's that? Perfume. Did you know that? Did you know the Bible tells you that? And that's in the Book of Proverbs. Do you know it also tells you to be careful what you wear. Do you also know it tells you to be careful where you go and it has specific instruction as how to deal with it. Now, do we

want to hear that? No. Because you know what the old sin nature says. I can handle it. Don't push me. This is for kids man. I'm past that. Again, the theological word would be appropriate there. Bologna. Nobody's past it. Do you want to get victory? Then, obey what the Bible actually says. Now here's what happens. The moment you obey you say, but it's so it's a powerful temptation. Obey the Bible. The moment you obey God's Spirit, so to speak, is released to the extent of your obedience. And as you continue to obey, guess what's going to happen. The more times you obey, the more times you resist, the Bible teaches that you become a servant to whatever you obey.

So you wind up being a servant of God now, used of God. And it goes the other way too. You obey the sin at the point of temptation. You keep obeying and keep obeying. And one day you wind up being a slave to that sin. And usually justifying it and hoping that it's not a sin, that it's okay. And your mind gets all messed up. Your emotions get messed up. The Bible says that fleshly lust war against your soul and your emotions. See, it's no wonder to me, since sexual desire is a gift of God, not given by the way to everybody. But when sexual desire is given, it comes from God. God is not against that. God is not against sexual satisfaction and fulfillment. He has told you the way to do it, to enjoy it the rest of your life. You got to do it. And he also said that you will glorify me if you stay away from sexual sin. That's what he said. How do we glorify God? By our salvation number one. Number two, by separation from sinful practices. Number three, you glorify God by your supplication to God, your prayer to God.

Turn to John chapter 14 please. John chapter 14. How do you glorify God? According to the Bible, by the way you pray. John 14. I read in verse 12 the words of Jesus Christ, John 14:12.

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in me, the works that I do, He will do also and greater works than these he will do because I go to my Father. Does that mean greater in the sense of manifestation of God's power? No, you can't do anything greater than creation or the resurrection. What does it mean? It means greater in the sense of the extent of those miracles. Jesus Christ in his life on Earth would not nearly have the effect on society and people himself while on Earth that individual Christians will have in the future. The amount of people that actually believed in Jesus Christ during his lifetime on Earth. Understand that this question is kind of a silly question in a way, because his wonderful work at the cross is being seen through the lives of the believers who in turn are extending the gospel to more people than ever was possible in that particular time of our Lord.

So it's all the result of what God does, but that's the point of it. There will be amazing things done by God's people. Now look at verse 13. Whatever you ask in my name, it will be on His authority and on His character that I will do. Why? That the Father may be glorified in the Son. How is God glorified? When we ask in His name. If you ask anything in my name, I will do it. Turn to chapter 15, please, and look, please at verse 5 to 8. How do you glorify God? Verse five says, I am the vine. You are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him bears much fruit, for without me he can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me, he's cast out as a branch and is withered and they gather them and throw them into the fire and they are burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this, my Father is glorified that you bear much fruit, so you will be my disciples.

How do I glorify God? By bearing much fruit in the context, by letting His word abide in me and me and him. How do I glorify God? By asking in His name and the Father will be glorified in the son the Bible says. Turn please to Luke 17 and let me give you an illustration. Luke chapter 17. I believe that you will glorify God when you pray by first of all, recognizing His authority, that's John 14:13. If you ask in His name, I will do it. Secondly, by relying upon His word, because if His word abides in you, you can ask what you will and it will be done to you and the Father is glorified that you bear that much fruit. And a third way when you pray, how you glorify God, not only recognizing His authority and relying upon His word, but third, when you respond with praise and thanksgiving, you are always glorifying God. Here's a classic example, Luke, chapter 17. We have the story of the ten lepers and notice what it says down in verse 17.

Just the Samaritan came back according to verse 16 and gave him thanks. The other nine did not. Notice verse 15 says that when he saw that he was healed, returned with a loud voice glorified God. Now here's a man who glorifies God by giving the Lord thanks. Jesus said, verse 17, were there not ten cleansed, but where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? How do I glorify God? When you pray, you recognize the authority of God and he is glorified. You do things in his name, not thinking that you have the power. Secondly, by relying upon His word. And third, by responding with praise and thanksgiving. When you thank the Lord for what he has done, God is glorified every single time. Turn to Hebrews, please chapter 13, Hebrews chapter 13 and look at verse 15. Hebrews 13:15 says, therefore, chapter 13, verse 15. Therefore by him, let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God. That is the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name, but do not forget to do good and to share for with such sacrifices, God is well pleased.

It's a sacrifice. Like you're bringing a sacrifice to the Lord to thank Him for what he has done. In everything, give thanks. By the way, it's also an evidence that you are filled with the Holy Spirit. We don't naturally thank God for everything, especially for things we don't like. But thanking God. I remember my dad used to tell me you ought to thank God for spinach. I was just a little kid, man. I could not fathom that remark. Have you ever tasted that terrible stuff? And now I think it's classy when I go in a store and I get an omelet with spinach. You know, I think back being a little kid. My dad said, Eat your spinach. I didn't like the spinach. I thought that stuff came from hell, not heaven. And now I eat this stuff. But you know when I was a little kid, he was trying to tell me something. You got to thank God even for things you don't like. And there are things that happen in our lives that we don't like. But we are to give praise and thanksgiving to God, and therefore we glorify God.

Now there are many ways you can glorify God, such as the way you serve the Lord using your gifts. 1 Peter 4 tells us that. By the way you use your gifts, you can give glory to God. The Bible tells us we can glorify God in times of suffering when we don't complain, but we take it patiently. We give glory to God. There are many ways to give glory to God. But to me, the fundamental problems deal first with salvation. A lot of people are not saved. That's why they're not giving glory to God. And as a Christian, understanding my salvation, so that God is glorified, that I don't talk about what I have done, but I talk about what he has done, and God is glorified. And a second problem deals with my whole attitude towards sexual sin. God says, Glorify me in your body. I want to use your body. It's a temple of my Holy Spirit. I want to use you, but I can't when you mess it up. You're grieving and quenching the Spirit. Don't do it. You'll glorify me if you stay away from it.

And the third major area is in prayer. We glorify God, recognizing who he is, his authority in our lives, not thinking we can do anything we can imagine or think. We can only imagine or think what God himself says he will do and to trust the character of God. And we also can glorify God when we rely totally on the word of God to control our thoughts. So we ask what is in accordance with His will, and we glorify God always when we give thanks and praise to Him. These are just a few little ideas. I want to give you a little time to ask questions. We got about 15, 20 minutes. And by the way, next week in our Biola hour gospel celebrations, we will be in Baltimore, Maryland, on Tuesday night. You can pray for us if the Lord brings us to your remembrance. Baltimore, Maryland, Trenton, New Jersey, on Wednesday night. And Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Thursday night.

And what we do with audiences is we just let them ask any questions they want in the spur of the moment. And we get a lot of ideas. Sometimes it gets a little wild. We've had to throw people out, but do what we have to do. We've had outbreaks of demonism. We've had hooker, haven. I mean, we had a whole bunch of hookers from the street who came in one night and messed up Art Black's mind. And they just came in paraded in with all their furs and all that stuff. And behind them was the motorcycle gang, the Hell's Angels. You know they all showed up, and Art let them have anything they wanted at the tables. But we have all kinds of people who come. People need the Lord, and they got questions they want to ask. And we thought it'd be a good idea. A lot of you have asked about that. If you could ask just any questions you want. Okay?

And if I don't know the answer, of course Dr. Cook does. And Art Black does. Okay. I'll use this mic down here, and all you have to do is give me your first name and tell you what your question

is. Who'll be first? Yes, sir. Back there. What's your first name? John. What's your question? Yes. Let me just repeat a little bit of this, so they have it for the tape. He's talking about sexual struggle. And there's a question about that. Galatians 6. Why don't you just come down here since you're reading a passage so we can get it on tape, just come right down here and use the microphone. Galatians 6 he's reading, okay?

Speaker 2:

Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself. Or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ.

David Hocking:

And your question is?

Speaker 2:

Would you please comment on the role of support in the context of the body and the group of believers that's been crucial for me and being able to open up with one or two other people in order to find the restorations that I'm trying to deal with it alone.

David Hocking:

Okay, very good. The importance about restoration. You should know that a lot of Bible teachers currently, I guess you probably do. Or you wouldn't ask the question really disagree over this issue. And so I'm just giving you what I believe, but I definitely believe in restoration.

Definitely. I know that sometimes it's a question of time that needs to take place. But I believe in restoration. Our God is a wonderful God of forgiveness and love. What you've asked is very important. I've never seen effective restoration take place without the body of Christ, so to speak, to come around that person and help. I've never seen it happen. I don't believe God wanted us to be alone. In Proverbs 18:1, it says a man who isolates himself brings himself to ruin. A friend is a friend. And a friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. Proverbs 17:70. It is not easy, though, because I'll tell you why. If the person does not want to get right with God, you're told by God not to fellowship with him. But I'm assuming that your question is involved with people who really want help and want to get right with God.

When that's true, we ought to be there with our arms around those brothers and to help them. That's very, very true. Obviously, if it's a sexual problem of homosexuality, those two guys would not be the ones to help each other. If it's a problem of heterosexual sin, then obviously the guy and the girl that are having sex together are not the ones to help each other. See, the devil will trick you into that and say, oh, I really want to help. Believe me, I do. Well, that's nice, sweetheart, but we're going to get somebody else. Okay? And that's very important to understand. Also, remember that in the help, the Bible teaches that older women are to counsel younger women. I don't know if you could find that many older women around here, but there are a few. But older men are to counsel younger men. Why is that? Well it's a protection. Because sometimes at the same age level, we aren't thinking as clearly as we might think if we had some years behind us and certainly years in the Lord. Also, I like to tell young gals that if you counsel with older women, the counseling sessions are always shorter.

They're always shorter. They'll save you a lot of money in the future. You don't have to worry about it. You talk to men, you get emotionally dependent and all that stuff. And they like you and all that. Basically that's why I don't counsel women. Not that I'm against the women. I like women and so forth. I mean, they could tell me their story and they got me weeping and I'm ready to kick their husband in the teeth. You know what I mean? I mean, they can put you around their little fingers so fast. It's unbelievable. That's why they need to talk to the old women turkeys in the church. Amen. You know, you can't fool them. Okay. All right. Someone else? Yeah. Anyone up there? Yes. Why don't you come on down? So we make sure I hate to do that to you. I'll try and come up. Give me your first name. What your question is, and we can get it on tape. Great. This is embarrassing, man first name.

Speaker 3:

Vicky.

David Hocking:

Okay, Vicky, your question.

Speaker 3:

The question was posed to me is what causes homosexuality, why the person turns to a person of their own sex. And I didn't have an answer.

David Hocking:

Great. That is a great question. Thank you. What causes homosexuality? I'm no psychologist or psychiatrist or anything like that. I have spoken to a lot of homosexuals, and I have dealt a lot with them. By the way, we had a Biola hour rally right in the homosexual community in San Francisco. And if you don't think that puts pressure on you, that auditorium was jam packed. There were people all over the aisles, all over the platform. The music group had to stand in between. It was unbelievable. But we saw over 272 homosexuals come to Christ. And God. The interesting thing. The first question, I am going to answer your question. The first question they asked us. The very first question. We started out the question answer. Guy stood up and he said, what do you think of homosexuals? I mean, you could have heard a pin drop. They're like, Get out the guns, man. Let's wipe this kid out. And I thought, man songs came to my mind. This is no kidding. It wasn't funny, but it came to my mind like, Lord, I'm coming home and nearer my God to thee.

And I thought, it is all over, baby. Man, I'm looking at these eyes glowing. And I turned to the audience. This is what I said. I said, God hates homosexuality. And if you continue in that practice, you're going to be in hell. But God is in love with homosexuals. And I remember that they stood up and cheered in an ovation. It's a message they need to understand. You see, I believe most homosexuals who have been involved for any length of time know that they got to get out of this somehow, some way. You have never seen depravity like you see in a thoroughly homosexual community. You have never seen it. I'm very sad to this day that my wife was with me with the San Francisco Police Department to look into that community. I wish she had never gone. It's very hard to ever get it out of your mind again. But I'll tell you, I have never seen depravity. Anything that you could possibly think of is done. It's worse than that. It's so bad. I

can't believe it. We talked to the emergency wards of the hospitals there and the doctors and finding out what's actually taking place.

And our newspapers are not telling that story. I want to tell you. And we so innocently get involved in homosexuality. You asked me what causes homosexuality. I think it's already obvious to all of you that I do not believe it is a genetic disorder. I believe it is a learned behavior pattern. But I also believe that the tendency to homosexuality is in the heart of every one of us. What sort of arrogance is in the Christian community to think you wouldn't do that? Why? Is adultery better? I mean, what are we saying? What causes homosexuality is the same thing that causes adultery. They're choices that we have made to violate God's word and to sin against the Lord. It may happen as we're children. So what do we do? We try to explain it for them. Well, it's because you had a domineering mother. Listen, I know a lot of macho guys that got domineering mothers. The reason they're so macho, they had to fight with their mom every day. I mean, everybody comes up with their own little deal.

Like what causes this? As though somehow this is worse than adultery or worse than some other sin. It's all sin people. And sin is a result of choices that we have made, and we need to obey God rather than sin. That's what I believe about it. I know it's a serious problem. Yes, sir. Right here.
First name?

Speaker 4:

Eddie. Yes, Eddie.

David Hocking:

Your question.

Speaker 4:

My question is when two believers, male or female, come to a point when they confess that they're in a sin and then they break up and they have truly repented and truly asked God forgiveness. Do you think it's God's will for them to be reconciled again? Because sometimes I know it's pretty hard for people who've been sexually involved and then broken away and to come back together again just as true believers.

David Hocking:

Okay, you asked me. Is it God's will? I wouldn't know. But whatever they did do is God's will, whether it was correct or not. Did everybody follow that? Let me walk through that again. See, I happen to believe that all things that happen are a part of the will of God. He even takes the wrath of men to praise His name. So I believe that God can turn everything around for his glory and his good and our good. But I believe everything. Like what I just said, I now know was the will of God. Everybody following? This gets a little thick. This is one of those things that you start thinking about and your head hurts. You need to get out of here quick. But let me just tell you again. What I just said. I now know was the will of God. Does that mean that it is the morally correct word of God that was reflected in that statement? No. Because there's the all-inclusive will of God that counts everything that happens in life. This is very important.

Answering your question.

Believe me, I know it sounds wild. So if they come back together and get married, then I would answer, it is the will of God. But you ask the question, is there any way to tell them whether it is the will of God now? And I would say I can't play that role for God. I would have to go to Scripture and find out exactly what it says and that's the only will of God that I could ever instruct anybody on. Are you following me? Okay.

Speaker 4:

I'm just wondering do you think they should pursue to be reconciliation?

David Hocking:

Okay. To pursue reconciliation. That's an interesting problem. I believe that the Christian and right thing to do is to confess and acknowledge your sin and to seek the forgiveness of the person you offended and not try to shift the blame. You know after all, it was your part. If you didn't look so great, I wouldn't have done it. I mean, don't ever do that. Okay? But the point is to be honest and commit.

[audio abruptly ends]