

When A Christian Stumbles into Homosexuality

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(Article from 'Life Lines', Abiding Life Ministries International, November 2008)

There has never been this type of period in Christianity where the carnal are making such an all-out effort to legitimize sin by giving it a different name and taking the responsibility away from the sinner. In this case, the sin is homosexuality. People are told they are born that way, addicted, or victims. The major problem is an obvious one for believers, for where there is forgiveness and deliverance from sin, there is no such provision from alternative lifestyles, an impersonal addiction, or blame-taking victimization. Here are some things worth remembering if, as a believer, you have fallen into the sin of homosexuality.

There was a young man who would come to church every other Sunday to rededicate himself, since he would spend all week in the pursuit and use of drugs. Weary of the repeated, yet seemingly insincere rededications, the pastor decided to put him out of the church. The next Sunday as the fellow came forward the pastor approached, but as he opened his mouth to reprimand and send the young man away, the Holy Spirit came over him to the extent that all the pastor could say was, "You can come again, and again, and again, and I will never forsake you." Today the young man is married to the pastor's daughter. No matter what your sin, no matter how many times you fail, you must never stop coming back to Christ. The day you stop coming to Him, your problems will merely be multiplied.

Most involved in homosexuality have an intense sexual conflict that has arisen from the following. Homosexuals cannot reproduce, so they recruit. Many will testify that they have been recruited. There are even perverse organizations that write books on how to distort a child's sexuality. It entails catching a child when he is most vulnerable and before he/she is in touch with his sexuality and having a sexual experience with him. Since the child is not yet in touch with sexuality, he/she will merely find it strange. However, upon reaching puberty, the event will take on new significance. When we recall a memory we always transport the person we are today, back to that event. At puberty the molested will project him/herself back to the 'event, 'and the enemy (Satan) will begin to whisper; *"Why did you not stop the person? Did you like him/her doing that? Were you sending out some kind of homosexual signal?"* To compound this by puberty the normal negative self-image that has nothing to do with the homosexual experience has begun to develop, so the person being 'transported' back to the event has feelings of being worthless unacceptable and a failure.

Taking a negative image back to the past causes the victim to take the blame. No event will undo a person, rather it is the message that he attaches to the event. With the enemy whispering his questions and the young person's reliving the event with a negative self-image the victim takes the

blame for what was done to him I asked one boy, "What does being molested mean to you?" He said, "I am defective I will never be normal, and I won't have a good marriage." Then he asked me, "What does my abuse mean to you?" I replied, "The man that did that to you has very serious problems!" You can see that the boy had taken the blame and become a sexually conflicted person. Reactions to this state of being can manifest itself in one of three ways:-

1. Return to homosexual sex in the attempt to resolve the conflict.
2. Avoid the pain and conflict of sex altogether
3. Become a passive predator someone who would like to attempt to resolve sexual conflict through sex but cannot bring him or herself to take the necessary steps. Therefore, he/she puts off a flirty sexual 'vibe' in, hopes that others will initiate the act and he/she can walk away once again being a victim without the guilt associated with having initiated the encounter.

The bottom line is that the place of healing is to accept that the person who abused you must wear the event, not you.

The following are key things to understand for those caught up in homosexuality or other sexual sin;

- 1) There is a place in the brain where worry, doubt, fear, and anxiety are stored. When someone is sexually stimulated, a wall surrounds the worry, doubt, fear, and anxiety, and the person gets refreshed. Mankind needs that for the same reason that there is not just one long day to exhaust him; night comes and he rests. I see why in Africa, where a man has lots of problems, he may have many wives and still feel the need for girlfriends. During sex, all worry is blocked, so the man no longer senses that he is poor, hopeless, hungry, homeless or concerned for his children. However, after sex the wall comes down, so sex expressed toward someone other than a mate will be followed by the return not only of worry, but accompanying self-hatred, guilt, fear, and condemnation. This causes a greater need for sex to build an even higher wall, and the downward spiral begins: more sex, more self-hatred, and the need for more sex.
- 2) Physiologically, sex can give only so much. For argument's sake, let's say that sex can give a '10', at best; it cannot give an '11', period. People want out of sex what it cannot give them. People have tried all manner of things to take sex beyond a 10, such as pornography, drugs, and alcohol, and physiologically it still has its limits. Given that, why not practice sex within the boundaries that God has given, which is sex between a man and a wife? The fact that physiologically sex cannot give more than a 10 is proof that the struggle for more is between the ears.
- 3) Because sexual stimulation will put a wall around worries, for some people sex stops becoming the expression of love and becomes the Lover. People find themselves under pressure and their Lover,

sex, makes a phone call to say, *“Meet me. I will take away the pressure and give you the relief you need.”* The person moves like a robot, watching him-self go to meet the thing that would destroy him. Sex as a Lover is the roughest lover ever, for the second that one meets with it; it will turn on him, calling him a hopeless degenerate and tempting with suicide. Many people need to make a clean break up from the foul lover of homosexuality.

- 4) The reason many believers struggle with homosexuality without others’ knowledge is quite simple. They have not given themselves over to it. Those who give themselves over to a sin become one with it and bear it in their bodies. Some will come to see me and confess the sin of homosexuality and I will say, “I would never have guessed, and that is because you have not given yourself up to it. Do not ever give yourself over to your sin.”
- 5) Stop attending programs getting on the internet, and reading books that promise to permanently set you free from homosexuality. The flesh is flesh and is hostile to God. There is no program to change the flesh. If I could offer such a program, I would be a-millionaire. You can always add to the flesh but never subtract from it. Admit the expression of your flesh and then admit this: “I would rather struggle with homosexuality and be driven to Jesus than never struggle with homosexuality. I count all things as rubbish in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus.” Your weakness and acceptance of the flesh will keep you safe from the flesh.
- 6) As a believer it is easy to turn one problem into five. You fall out with God before you fall into homosexuality. Fall into condemnation and your problems will multiply. You must learn to get up as fast as you fall. Condemnation drives you from Him, where you will be sunk and move into angry rebellion. Only He (Christ) possesses the purity and power that you need. “There is therefore now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus.”
- 7) Learn the love of God. A lesser gives way to a greater. If you believe your behavior keeps God from loving you, He will not conquer the problem for you. From His perspective there are people who practice homosexuality and do not know He loves them, and then there are people who do not practice homosexuality but still do not know God loves them. You must get the first thing right.
- 8) You are never defined by your sin. I never let a Christian say to me, “I am a homosexual.” You are a believer, a child of God that stumbles, but you are much more than your sin. I was at a conference and asked what the goal of Christianity was; people answered, “To please God!” Then I asked, “How do you please God?” “With perfect obedience,” was the answer. Then I asked, “Who here is in perfect obedience?” No one raised his hand. I made the obvious observation, “You all have sin in your lives. It does not matter if He (God) left it there or you left it there: it is there, and your sin is not what defines you, but the God that loves you despite your sin.”

- 9) Many determine that the best way to deal with sex issues is to kill the sex drive. Some take medication to accomplish this. Kill the sex drive and you will become a distortion.
- 10) The real disease that homosexuality produces, the disease that is killing more people than AIDS, is being consumed with 'self', which is soul killing. Stop obsessing on homosexuality. Let every thought of homosexuality trigger the awareness within you that your thoughts must move to those things that are pure and lovely and true.
- 11) For many, the past is what brought the sexual conflict that ushered in homosexuality. Do not attempt to undo the past. Instead, let God-crucify what the past created. Christian counseling has a goal, and that is Christ. The solutions offered in Christian counseling cannot be accomplished without Christ. If they can, then the counseling is not Christian.
- 12) When it comes to any sin, the options are limited. In the power of the flesh, you can try to keep a lid on it or give yourself over to it and die slowly. A third option is to abide in Christ. How do we abide? By admitting that we who are His children are abiding and the proof of abiding is the struggle against sin. How do we experience abiding? In need! There is a statement that is said so often that people believe it is in the Bible. "God will not give you more than you can handle!" Not true! Daily life presents to us something that we cannot handle: the world, our bodies, our circumstances, our families, our flesh, and everything else. You were made to be dependent upon Him (Christ) to handle the problems. Give them to Him and you have made Him a participant in them.

About Dr Michael Wells – A trained Psychologist, minister and counselor, who has worked and ministered in over 150 countries for over 30 years and established Abiding Life Ministries International.

Abiding Life Ministries International is an evangelical discipleship ministry committed to helping defeated believers find victory over the daily obstacles of life.

The focus of ALMI is on what Christ has already given each believer—His life indwelling—and that is all that is needed. There is nothing that the nearness of the Lord will not cure. The seed for Abiding Life Ministries International was planted in 1972 when the Lord burdened the heart of Michael Wells to minister to defeated believers. In subsequent years, through many hours of individual discipling, the simple teaching of abiding in Christ moment by moment was revealed as the answer for abundant living. ALMI has labored to make this message uncomplicated and reasonable; the answer for defeat must be simple and within the grasp of the very weakest.

In describing Abiding Life Ministries International, there is an inherent problem: If ALMI were introducing people to a teaching, doctrine, method, or program, its ministry would be very easy to describe. However, we want to introduce people to One who is not dead, who actually lives within them, and that can only be done by a revelation from Him.

The name “Abiding Life Ministries International” helps explain that we take the message of abiding in Christ internationally. ALMI is a worldwide (150 countries so far) mission organization dedicated to the simple message that there is nothing the nearness of Christ cannot overcome. This simple message that we call the abiding life (John 15) is best explained by the following illustration: Holding both hands out in front of you, imagine Christ on your right hand and your problems on your left hand. As you move the hand with problems toward you, the problems get your attention and become all-consuming. However, if you move the hand with Christ on it toward you, He gets your attention, and though the problems have not disappeared, they are not overwhelming. What gets your attention gets you. The goal of Abiding Life Ministries is singular: We are missionaries to Christians and desire to see them focused on Christ and understanding all He has already done for them. ALMI does not present a one-time fix; it is our conviction that Christ desires a moment-by-moment relationship with Himself, and in the moment of an abiding relationship, believers share in all of Christ’s victory, all of His power, and all of His work.

It is also our conviction that power comes through weakness, so as Christians we should pray to be weak, for we only fail where we think we are strong. The man who did everything did nothing, and all that He ever did, He never did. It was the Father doing it through Him. In John 17 we have a promise that we can be one with Him as He was with the Father. We never pray, “Help me be strong. Help me have love. Help me have kindness,” etc. We pray this: “Jesus, in this moment You come and be my love, my kindness, and my peace, for without You I can do nothing.”

We believe in a purpose for suffering, that there are things learned in suffering that cannot be learned in comfort. We believe God permits what He could prevent to that end. We also believe in being offended until we can no longer be offended, and that in every relationship God is working something spectacular in our lives. Every believer has escaped eternal hell, and yet few find victory over the daily hell in which they live. Bondage to adverse circumstance, people, sin, and the past continues to steal abundant life from God’s children. God allows problems in His children’s lives to bring them into a dependent relationship with Himself. As believers allow life’s problems to bring them into His presence, the purpose of the problems has been fulfilled.

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