



Homosexuality *And You*

I want to have a better
UNDERSTANDING

Help!

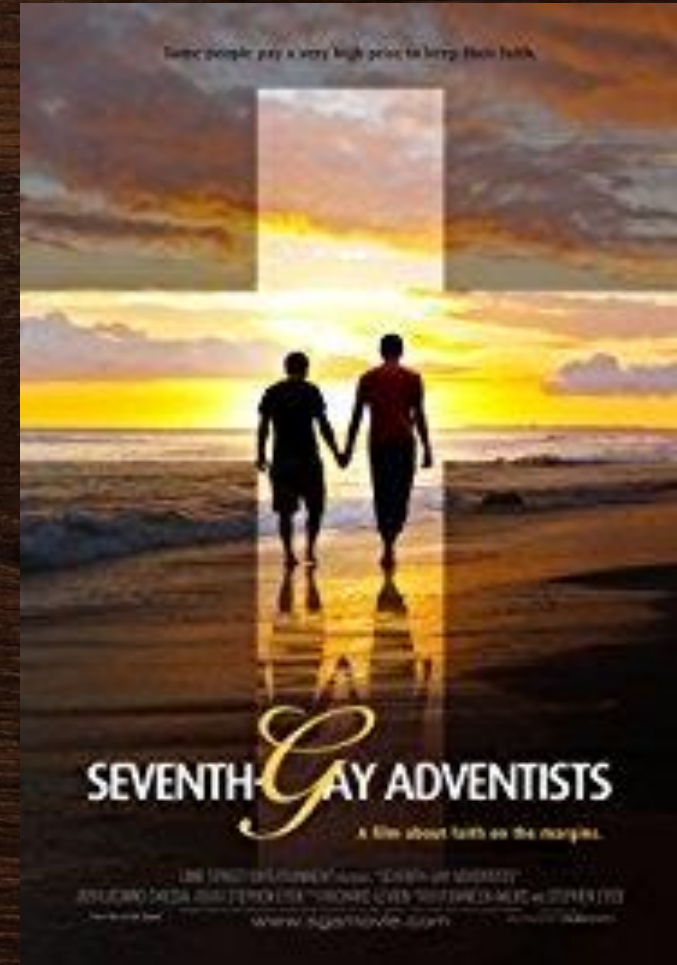
I Am a Homosexual

Look

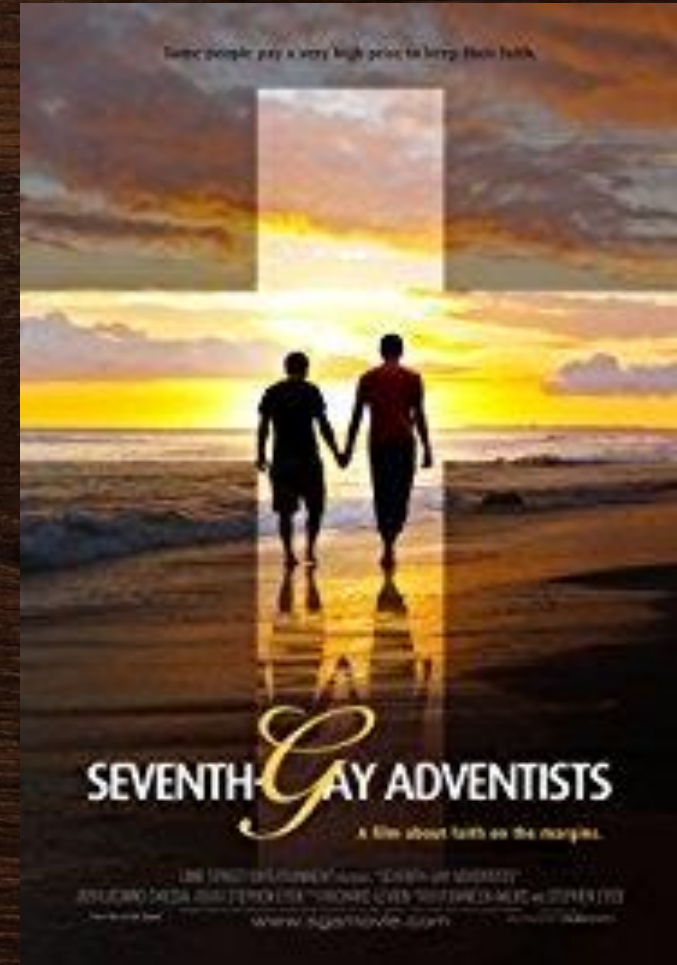
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I Am a Homosexual

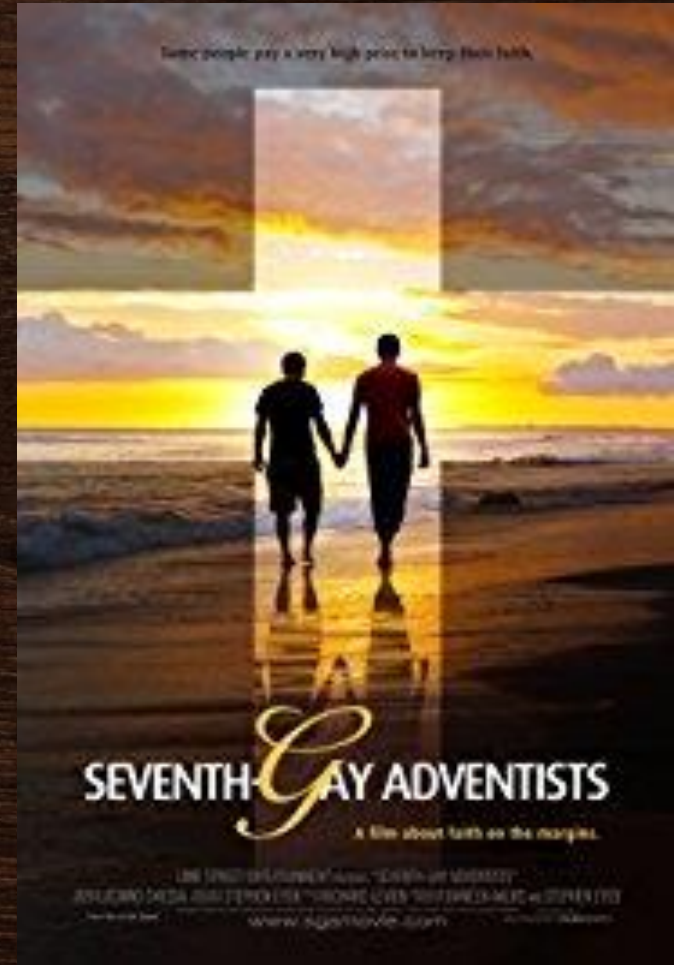
The Adventist Church and homosexuality.



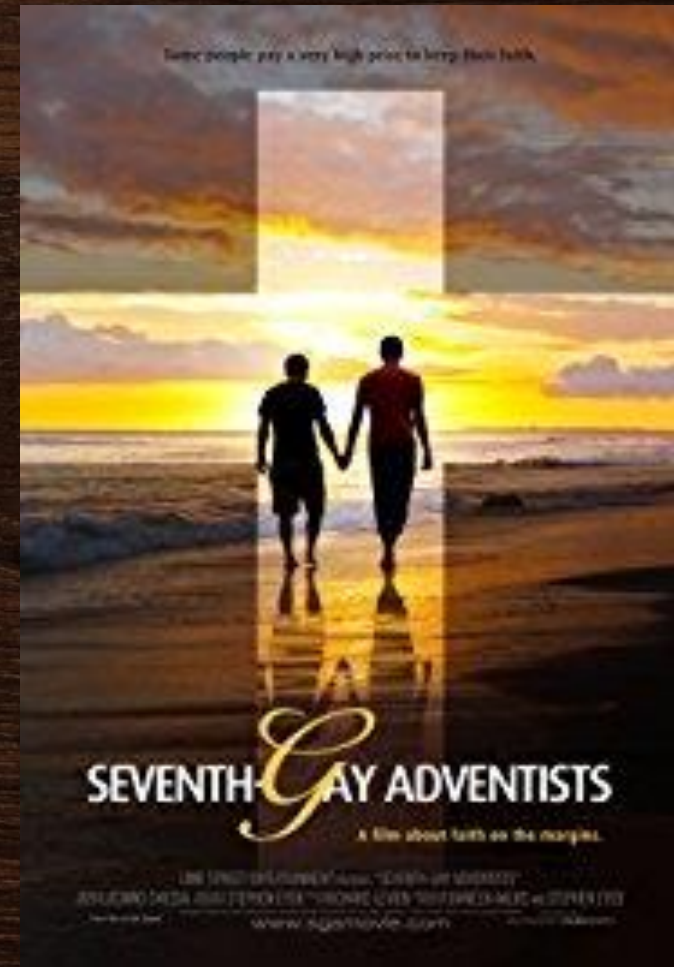
The ~~Adventist~~ ~~Church~~ and homosexuality.



The ~~Adventist~~ *Bible* ~~Church~~ and homosexuality.



The ~~Adventist~~ *Science* ~~Church~~ and homosexuality.



Understanding The Terms



Homosexual:

A person who is sexually and romantically attracted to people of their own sex.

Lesbian:

A lesbian is a homosexual woman.

Gay:

A male homosexual.

Transgender:

“For transgender people, the sex they were assigned at birth and their own internal gender identity do not match.”

Transgender:

“For transgender people, the sex they were assigned at birth and their own internal gender identity do not match.”

“Transgender persons feel they are psychologically born in the wrong body. Yet they are fully biologically male or female. Transgender is not about sexual orientation. Sexual orientation is about who you are attracted to sexually.”

Transsexual

A transgender is biological male or female who feels the opposite. A transsexual is one who goes through the sex re-assignment surgery to match the gender identity.

Transvestite

“A person who sometimes wears clothes traditionally worn by and associated with the opposite sex; typically a male who cross-dresses occasionally by habit or compulsion.”

Transvestite

Understand clearly that some transgenders dress to match their gender identity (the way they feel sexually) and not their biological sex. These are not transvestites.

Intersex Hermaphrodite

This is a general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male.

SEX

Male

Female

ORIENTATION

Heterosexual

Homosexual/Gay

Lesbian

Bi-sexual

Queer / Questioning

The “Q” can stand for **Questioning** and/or **Queer**:
Questioning refers to individuals who are unsure
of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.
Queer is an umbrella term encompassing a
variety of sexual orientations and gender
identities excluding heterosexuality.”

Heartland Alliance International

The Bible and Homosexuality



Romans 1:26-28

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.

Romans 1:26-28

Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error. Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done.

1 Timothy 1:8-11

We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers,

1 Timothy 1:8-11

10 for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers — and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine

11 that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

The first record on same sex encounter in the Bible

Genesis 9:20-24 King James Version (KJV)

²⁰ And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard:

²¹ And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent. his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him.

The first record on same sex encounter in the Bible

²² And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without.

²³ And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father;

The first record on same sex encounter in the Bible

and their faces were backward, and they saw
not their father's nakedness.

²⁴ And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew
what his younger son had done unto him.

Genesis 19:4-13 King James Version (KJV)

⁴ But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:

⁵ And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

⁶ And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him,

⁷ And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.

Sodom's Sin

Ezekiel 16:49 New Living Translation (NLT)

Sodom's sins were pride, gluttony, and laziness, while the poor and needy suffered outside her door.

Some argue as though homosexuality is the most “sinful” of all sins. This is not true. Sin is sin in the Bible.

Some argue that homosexuality is the only “sin” God calls an abomination. This is false.

Proverbs 6:16-19 lists seven things which are also **abominations**: "haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are swift in running to mischief, a false witness who utters lies, and one who spreads strife among brothers."

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The Adventist Church & Homosexuality



Voted at the General Conference Spring
meeting on April 8, 2014

*Responding to Changing Cultural Attitudes Regarding Homosexual
and Other Alternative Sexual Practices*

Marriage as a wonderful divine gift
to humanity is a covenant-based
union of the two genders physically,
emotionally, and spiritually, referred
to in Scripture as "one flesh."

General Conference April 2014

Jesus Christ affirmed marriage to be both monogamous and heterosexual, a lifelong union of loving companionship between a man and a woman.

General Conference April 2014

While the monogamous union in marriage of a man and a woman is affirmed as the divinely ordained foundation of the family and social life and the only morally appropriate locus of intimate sexual expression

General Conference April 2014

. . . singleness and the friendship of singles are within the divine design as well. Scripture, however, places a distinction between acceptable conduct in friendship relations and sexual conduct in marriage.

Key Point

“Homosexuality is a manifestation of the disturbance and brokenness in human inclinations and relations caused by the entrance of sin into the world. While everyone is subject to fallen human nature,

Key Point

"we also believe that by God's grace and through the encouragement of the community of faith, an individual may live in harmony with the principles of God's Word"

(Seventh-day Adventist Position Statement on Homosexuality, 2012).

Key Point

We hold that all people, regardless of their sexual orientation, are loved by God. We do not condone singling out any group for scorn and derision, let alone abuse.

Key Point

Still, God's Word that transcends time and culture does not permit a homosexual lifestyle. The Bible's opposition to same-sex unions/marriage is anchored in God's plan at creation for marriage (Gen 1:26-28; 2:20-24),

Key Point

In divine legislation (Lev 18:22; 20:13; 1 Cor 6:9-11), and in Jesus' explicit confirmation of a permanent, monogamous, and heterosexual marriage relationship

(Seventh-day Adventist Position Statement on Homosexuality, 2012).

Adventist Theological Seminary Statement on Homosexuality, 2016

“We differentiate between homosexuality as an orientation (propensity, inclination, condition, disposition) and homosexual practice, although we do not enter the debate over whether or how much of the . . .

... orientation is inherited or acquired, since no Scripture passages directly address this point.”

“Scripture condemns heterosexual immorality no less than homosexual practice and warns against any harboring of lustful thoughts . . .

. . .and desires for such practices.
While homosexuality is a distortion of the Edenic ideal, “there is no condemnation” for homosexually oriented persons as long as they “are in Christ Jesus” (Rom 8:1) and do not harbor or act upon their orientation and propensities. . .

. . . .The same principle applies to those who struggle with heterosexual immorality (see Matt 5:27–28; Rom 6:1–23; 8:1–4; Col 3:1–10; James 1:14–15).

“Even as some individuals may experience a miraculous deliverance from sinful heterosexual and homosexual urges, others may have to wrestle with such tendencies all their lives (see Gal 5:16–25). One is not culpable for these involuntary tendencies, but for acting upon them either in imagination or actual practice.”

“The Seventh-day Adventist Church will encourage all its congregations, employees, ministry leaders, organizations, and entities to uphold church teachings and faith-based practices in Church membership, employment, education, and marriage ceremonies, including officiating at weddings. These teachings and faith-based practices . . .

. . . built upon the Bible's instructions about human sexuality, are equally applicable to heterosexual and homosexual relationships. It is inconsistent with the Church's understanding of scriptural teaching to admit into or maintain in membership persons practicing sexual behaviors incompatible with biblical teachings.

. . . Neither is it acceptable for Adventist pastors or churches to provide wedding services or facilities for same-sex couples.”

Seventh-day Adventists
In God's Image:
Scripture. Sexuality. Society
Summit on Homosexuality
March 2014 South Africa



Dr. Landless
Health Ministries Director

*Landless Calls for Compassion,
Regardless of Cause*

The Seventh-day Adventist Church's top health leader said there is no clear model to understand why some individuals are homosexual, saying it is a "complex interplay of genetic and environmental factors."

“Homosexual men, he said, often have anatomical differences in their brains. Post mortem studies of homosexuals and heterosexuals have shown the differences, but it’s unclear whether the variation is causal or associated, Landless said . . .

... because the populations studied have been small. The differences show that many homosexual men have a larger superchiasmatic nucleus, which is involved in determining circadian rhythm, as well as larger anterior commissure, which communicates between the brain's left and right hemispheres."

“Homosexuals have slightly higher rates of increased non-communicable diseases, including hypertension and a higher cardiovascular age compared to their actual age. And lesbian women, Landless said, are 3.2 times more likely to die of breast cancer than heterosexual women.”



Dr. Curtis Fox, professor and
department chair of
Counseling and Family
Sciences at the church's
Loma Linda University

“Family dysfunction, sexual trauma and other environmental factors are often identified as triggers of homosexual conduct, but the reality may be more nuanced than some faith communities are comfortable acknowledging . . .”



Dr. Curtis Fox, professor and
department chair of
Counseling and Family
Sciences at the church's
Loma Linda University

“Reality is complex,” Fox said.
“Simple explanations will not
suffice, and will be seen as less
than helpful by those who are
dealing with this nature,”



Dr. Curtis Fox, professor and
department chair of
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So-called “**reparative therapy**”
Fox said, assumes that sexual
orientation for every individual
is exclusively a matter of choice
that can be reversed through the
exercise of willpower in a
supportive, Christian
environment.



Dr. Curtis Fox, professor and
department chair of
Counseling and Family
Sciences at the church's
Loma Linda University

... While some people say they have found personal transformation through such therapy, others report no change in same-sex attraction and, in many cases, exacerbated psychological and emotional trauma, Fox said.”

The Church Insist Christ-like Response towards Homosexuals

Compassion

Kindness

Love

Acceptance



Barrington Brennen,
Counseling psychologist
and marriage and family
therapist

“God did not promise to remove the **reason** you sin or fall. He promises to give us the strength not to fall or act on the desire. The desire to smoke and the attraction to same sex individuals is the “desire.”



Barrington Brennen,
Counseling psychologist
and marriage and family
therapist

But one can choose not to act on it. However, for some people, the “desire” might remain through the lifetime. That is not sinning”



Barrington Brennen,
Counseling psychologist
and marriage and family
therapist

“We must also bear in mind that some people believe that their orientation is natural or normal and our duty is to respect that.”

Myths about Homosexuality



Myth 1: All gays and lesbians are obsessed with sex.

Reality 1: The majority of gays and lesbians yearn for companionship.

Myth 2: There is one gay lifestyle. This lifestyle is the experience of every person attracted to someone of the same gender and is marked by many of the following:

1. drug and pornography addiction
2. active sexual experimentation
3. excessive self-gratification
4. promiscuous and, sometimes
anonymous, sexual encounters;
and/or
5. a lack of desire for and an inability to
maintain monogamous, same-sex
relationships

Reality 2: There are as many same-sex lifestyles as there are heterosexual lifestyles. There are same amount of promiscuous homosexual as there are promiscuous heterosexuals.

Myth 2: All homosexuals engage in anal sex.

Reality 2: There are some homosexuals that believe anal sex is wrong and disgusting. In fact one research indicates that there might be as many heterosexuals having anal sex as homosexuals.

Myth 2: Homosexuals cannot be monogamous.

Reality 2: Many homosexuals are faithful to one partner to remain celebrate just like heterosexuals.

Why is it important to
know these myths?

It is important because in
reality many Christians
judge homosexuals based
to these myths.

Why is it important to
know these myths?

These same Christians are slow
to judge heterosexuals who are
living perverted, sexually
obsessed lives.

The shocking world around us

The Impact on the Seventh-day Adventist Church





The Documentary, 2008

Seventh-Gay Adventists



“Faith, identity, and sexuality collide in this raw and moving documentary about the challenges and spiritual journeys of three Seventh-day Adventists who love God and their church and are also gay.”



Former Adventist pastor for
over twenty years with four
children is not gay

Seventh-day Adventist

KINDSHIP

INTERNATIONAL



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Welcome

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST KINSHIP, INTERNATIONAL

A safe community for LGBT Adventists and Allies





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KINSHIP COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

AFFIRMING DIVERSITY WITHIN THE ADVENTIST COMMUNITY AND BEYOND.



Discover

OUR STORY

*

Seventh-day Adventist Kinship, Kenya, established in 2010, provides a safe spiritual and social community to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex current and former Seventh-day Adventists around the world, their families, and those who support them.

[ABOUT US](#)



“Seventh-day Adventist Kinship, Kenya, established in 2010, provides a safe spiritual and social community to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex current and former Seventh-day Adventists around the world, their families, and those who support them.”



“In 1987 a federal lawsuit was filed by the Adventist Church against Kinship in the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles, California, charging that by using "Seventh-day Adventist" in its name the gay support group was guilty of trademark infringement.”

The lawsuit was decided in favor of SDA Kinship.”

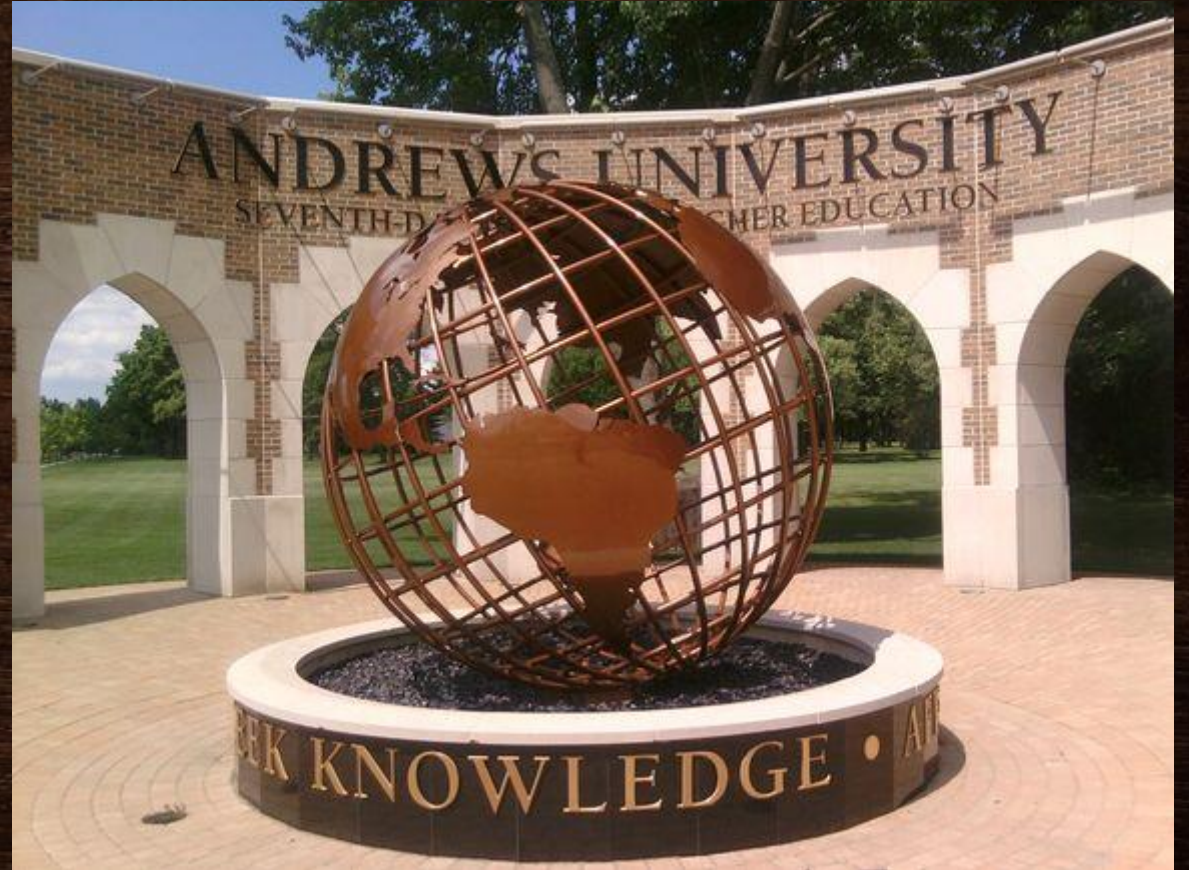


Exodus International

An organizing helping people who want to change

In January 2012, then-president of Exodus International, Alan Chambers, during his address to a Gay Christian Network conference, stated, "The majority of people that I have met, and I would say the majority meaning 99.9% of them have not experienced a change in their orientation," and apologized for the previous Exodus slogan "Change Is Possible"

Andrews University



Andrews University

Berrien Springs, Michigan

“The Andrews University Board of Trustees, which met on campus in October 2017, has approved the creation of an official LGBT+ student support group.”

AULL4One

Andrews University

Berrien Springs, Michigan

“It is designed to be a confidential, members-only group that will exist solely for the support of LGBT+ students, including those who are questioning or have not yet fully disclosed their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

AULL4One

Our Approach

“Jesus affirmed the dignity of all human beings and reached out compassionately to persons and families suffering the consequences of sin. He offered caring ministry and words of solace to struggling people, while differentiating His love for sinners from His clear teaching about sinful practices. . .

. . . As His disciples, Seventh-day Adventists endeavor to follow the Lord's instruction and example, living a life of Christ-like compassion and faithfulness.”

“We hold that all people, regardless of their sexual orientation, are loved by God. We do not condone singling out any group for scorn and derision, let alone abuse.”

“As long as transgender people or (homosexuals) are committed to ordering their lives according to the biblical teachings on sexuality and marriage they can be members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.”

As Christians we are to be,

Compassionate

Understanding

Accepting

Patient

Caring

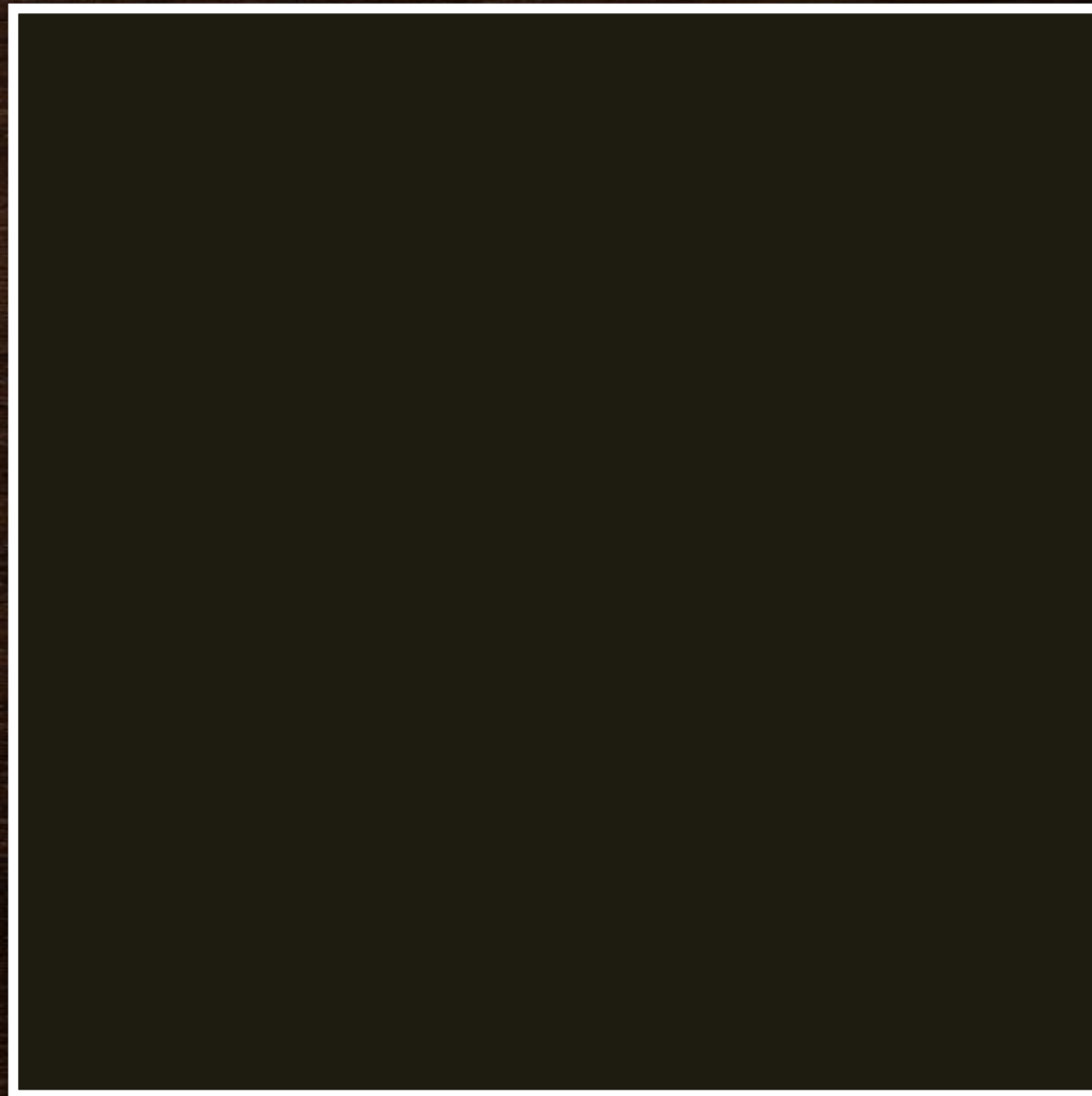
Respectful

“Love one
another as
I have
loved you.”



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