**The Gospel and Sexual Identity**

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 10.25.15

LifeGroup Book: *Counter Culture,* David Platt

**Big Idea:** God had an original purpose for sexual gender, identity, and practice. His plan has not changed; deviating from it will result in brokenness.

Genesis 1:26-27 ESV

26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 2:18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."

**LGBT people are equally made in the image of God.**

**LGBT people should be seen, first and foremost, as image bearers, not for their sexual identity.**

**God designed gender for a holy purpose; manipulation of that design ends in brokenness.**

**The Bible is clear in declaring that homosexuality is a violation of God’s purpose for men and women.**

*Romans 1:26-28* ESV

*26 For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; 27 and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. 28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.*

**The concern: The militant LGBT agenda is an assault on our children, schools, and our religious freedom.**