



Ecclesia Christian Counseling News

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

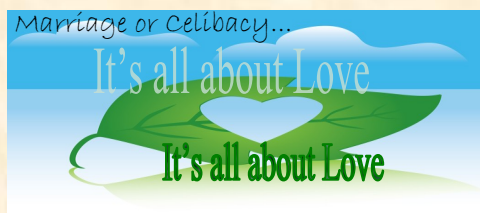
June 2009

Same-Sex “Marriage”, How to Respond

With the topic of same-sex unions prevalent in state legislatures, schools and the news, it is wise to be informed of the Biblical view of marriage. Friends, family members and others may be personally affected by this issue. To help be prepared to “speak the truth in love,” a free downloadable Bible study entitled *The Bible and Same-Sex “Marriage”* is available through Concordia Publishing House under the series, Changing Currents. Follow the following link: www.cph.org/topics

“And then, alas, there is the church. Christianity, as it currently exists, has done some terrible things to men. When all is said and done, I think most men in the church believe that God put them on earth to be a good boy. The problem with men, we are told, is that they don't know how to keep their promises, be spiritual leaders, talk to their wives, or raise their children. But, if they will try real hard they can reach the lofty summit of becoming...a nice guy. That's what we hold up as models of Christian maturity: Really Nice Guys. We don't smoke, drink, or swear; that's what makes us men. Now let me ask my male readers: In all your boyhood dreams growing up, did you ever dream of becoming a Nice Guy?”

Excerpt from “Wild at Heart”. John Eldredge



The presentation on “What do you say to the Dying?” will be presented Thursday, June 11th beginning at 6:30 PM. Ecclesia's consultant, Rev. Michael Hintze of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Westminster will provide a framework from death to life. Please call to confirm attendance due to limited seating. ~ ~ ~

Voices of Truth; Faith Overcoming Abuse • Biblical group studies in a safe, confidential and supportive environment for those harmed by abusive relationships. Call 978-230-6446

Is Your Relationship Abusive?

For Men and Women who may be experiencing any of the following in their relationships;

1. Being yelled at, called names, criticized, put down
2. Living with a bully with out of control anger
3. Recipient of extreme jealousy or threats
4. Feel like you're walking on eggshells
5. Everything seems to be your fault
6. Feel isolated, alone, fearful

hope and healing is available. See the contact information below for support and intervention.

“Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security.” Jeremiah 33:6



I would like to express how much I appreciate the work that the counselor at Ecclesia Christian Counseling has done in my life. I give God the glory for the new life, but He has used her to achieve this. She has taught me so much about God, about scripture, about faith, and about His unfathomable love for me. In this journey, my deepest wounds have just begun to heal. Some of the wounds were accidental, no one's fault; some were inflicted by others; some were self-induced -- all can be healed by the love and grace of God.

The marriage we had built was not worth saving...but by the grace of God we had an opportunity to tear it down and build something new, something beautiful, something that actually resembled the miraculous union He had intended for it to be.

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When pelting rain batters at the windows of my life, when winds whistle, whip, and begin to wail,

I bundle close around me every promise and warm myself in the red-hot fire of His love,

'til even wind and rain become a melody of peace and purpose and promise for tomorrow.

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