

ELEPHANTS

THINGS NOBODY WANTS TO TALK ABOUT

HOMOSEXUALITY – WEEK 3

Small Group Time:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with key questions, add any optional Scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Main Idea:

Ever noticed how there are some things that are really difficult to talk about? It happens in our families, at our work, with our friends, & it most certainly happens in the church. And because things are difficult to talk about, we find ourselves constantly dancing around or avoiding those topics. Not anymore! It's time to have an open, healthy conversation about the "Elephants in the Room".

Key Questions:

1. What are some reasons why it is so hard to talk about the big "elephants" in our lives & in the church?
2. Read **John 1:17 (NIV)**. How does this tell us that Jesus handled the elephants in the world around Him? Why is it so easy to become one-sided – either all grace or all truth? Why is that dangerous?
3. Read **Romans 3:10**. Ben said, "The question isn't 'Am I broken?', the question is 'What shape does my brokenness take?'" What shape does your brokenness take? Why is that such an important acknowledgement for this discussion?
4. One of the points was that "Following Christ involves denying self". What are some areas of your life where it is important to deny yourself? Why is it important for us to bring our sexual desires under the control of God?
5. Read **1 Corinthians 6:9-11**. Do you fall into any of those categories? Because you do, what do you deserve? What is the only thing powerful enough to bring forgiveness and healing to any of those?
6. Transformed hearts lead to transformed lives. How does your heart need to be transformed when it comes to this topic? Where do you tend to lean – all truth or all grace? What unhealthiness results from that lean?
7. Talk about the 3 action steps that Ben challenged us to when it comes to the LGBTQ community – (1) Love them. (2) Get to know them. (3) Start conversations, don't make statements. What's difficult about these? What's powerful about these?

Next Steps:

- What's one thing you will do this week as a result of something you learned from this message?