

The 5 Streams: Differing Responses to LGBTQ

Stream	Condemnation	Affirmation	Accommodation	Mortification	Transformation
Approach to Same-Sex Attraction (SSA)	God condemns all gay people as beyond redemption	God affirms gay partnerships/marriage	Accommodates a “celibate gay Christian” identity as a unique cross to bear	Mortify (kill) sin by renouncing gay identity and repenting of homoerotic behavior	Mortification + address wounds in the soul that may contribute to sexual brokenness
Original Side	(N/A)	Side A	Side B	Side Y	Side X
Theological Premise	God hates sinners (Ps. 11:5); gay people deserve the death penalty (misapply Lev. 18:22, 20:13; Prov. 6:16-19)	Revisionist pro-gay theology justifies homoerotic behavior; a good tree cannot bear bad fruit (Mt. 7:18)	Follows a biblical sexual ethic, but desires & identity do not change; fallen desires determine identity	Follows a biblical sexual ethic; God gives us power to mortify sinful impulses (Rom. 8:13; Col. 3:5)	Follows a biblical sexual ethic; God heals and transforms spirit, soul, and body (1 Thess. 5:23; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Rom. 12:1-2; Eph. 4:22-24)
Origin of SSA (spirit, soul, body)	Spirit: People choose to be gay out of sheer spiritual rebellion against God	Body: God created people gay (so the Scriptures need to be updated)	Body: SSA is inborn & immutable because of the Fall (similar to an inborn physical disability)	Spirit: Primarily a sin nature issue; result of the Fall	Spirit, Soul, & Body: Both a sin nature (spirit) and developmental issue (soul) that can affect sexual desires (body)
Pastoral Care	No redemption possible for people God hates	No need to repent for inborn, God-given sexual orientation; malign transformation as “conversion therapy”	SSA reframed as a gift from God; promote “spiritual friendships” to ease loneliness; malign transformation as “conversion therapy”	Emphasize repentance & spiritual disciplines; some malign transformation as “conversion therapy” and/or “secular psychology”	Healing and restoration through the body of Christ, counseling/talk therapy, and inner healing prayer; open to gifts of the Spirit
Outcome for Overcomer	Guilt, shame, condemnation, and alienation from God	Those who persist in unrepentant homoerotic behavior will not inherit the Kingdom of God (1 Cor. 6:9-11)	Fixating on fallen desires, instead of putting off the old self (Eph. 4:22), results in continued enslavement to sin (Rom. 6:14)	Ongoing battle to kill sinful impulses while discounting wounds in the soul that may contribute to gender insecurity and desires to bond with the same sex	Progressive sanctification that remains open to the Holy Spirit healing wounds in the soul that may contribute to gender insecurity and desires to bond with the same sex
Proponents	WESTBORO BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor Steven Anderson - Faithful Word Baptist, AZ Pastor Patrick Boyle – Revival Baptist Church, FL Pastor Roger Jimenez - Verity Baptist Church, CA Pastor Kevin Swanson - Reformation Church, CO	REFORMATION PROJECT Q CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP James Brownson <i>Bible, Gender, Sexuality</i> David Gushee <i>Changing Our Mind</i> Justin Lee <i>Torn</i> Matthew Vines <i>God and the Gay Christian</i>	REVOICE.ORG POSTURE SHIFT Greg Coles <i>Single Gay and Christian</i> Nate Collins <i>All But Invisible</i> Wesley Hill <i>Washed and Waiting</i> Preston Sprinkle <i>Embodied; People to Be Loved</i> Mark Yarhouse <i>Costly Obedience</i>	THE GOSPEL COALITION Sam Allberry <i>Is God Anti-Gay?</i> Rosaria Butterfield <i>The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert</i> Becket Cook <i>A Change of Affections</i> Jackie Hill Perry <i>Gay Girl, Good God</i> Christopher Yuan <i>Holy Sexuality</i>	RESTORY MINISTRIES RESTORED HOPE NETWORK HELP4FAMILIES.ORG PORTLANDFELLOWSHIP.COM MASTERINGLIFE.ORG CHANGED MOVEMENT Anne Paulk <i>Restoring Sexual Identity</i> Joe Dallas <i>Desires in Conflict</i> Linda Seiler <i>TRANS-Formation</i>