

# American Decency Association

PO Box 202, Fremont, MI 49412 231-924-4050 www.americandecency.org

Encouraging Christians to guard their hearts

June 2010

## Christ & Sexual Sin by John Freeman



... Homosexuality is one of those topics that draws vibrant reactions. Complex issues of the heart usually do. Christians are in a sort of no-man's land here. Suggesting that homosexuality is sinful can appear, to the world, as uneducated, rude, and stupid. On the other hand, suggesting that God loves and forgives sinners who struggle with homosexuality and that we should do the same may appear compromising and wishy-washy.

While we can oppose the advancement of this movement by vocalizing our concerns and participating in the political process, for the Christian a far deeper response to homosexuality and the gay community is needed. In such a heated debate, Christians have a responsibility to represent Christ to a fallen world in four ways.

**Patiently Listen:** (See James 1:19) ... The more you understand a person's point of view, the more you can profit from it. Why do they think that way? What events led up to their adopting that worldview? What's been their experience of Christianity...? What wounds from their family of origin and from other people lie festering in the background? ...

**Personally Repent:** (Read Luke 13:1-5) ... What's your motivation? Is it to reach lost people with the enduring love that has found you out - that has exposed you as a cut-throat and depraved sinner? ... Do you really care about homosexuals - or only want them to shut up and disappear? Luke 7:47 says that "he who is forgiven little, loves little."

**Gently Instruct:** ... Do we pray for Christlikeness as we seek to correct others? Are our unloving and impatient hearts a hindrance to the gospel message? It should always be the truths of Scripture, not our demeanor or presentation of it, that people reject. ... They are victims of their

own sin and the lies and sin of others; therefore they're caught. But they're also accountable before a holy God. We must represent both aspects of the truth as we share Christ. (Read 2 Tim. 2:22-25)

**Mercifully Pursue and Then Engage the Heart:** God calls us to be neither reclusive nor rude, but to move boldly into confusing, high-stakes situations with the gospel of God's mercy. We bring the gospel where it is most needed: to the vocally anti-Christian pro-gay activist; to the mild-mannered clergy who says the love of Jesus means affirming homosexuality as God's gift; to the quietly confused and scared teenager who fears he's gay and there's no other option. ... (See Jude 22-23)

Jesus was the master of all that I've just spoken about (though He was in no need of repentance). We should be too. His methods are the most under-utilized and missed aspects of evangelism.

[Taken from *Tabletalk*, Ligonier Ministries, May 2010]

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## McDonald's Breaks Promise



On the front side of this insert we explore how we as Christ's representatives should bear witness to those caught in sin, including homosexuality, of their need for repentance and redemption. Scripture makes it abundantly and unequivocally clear that homosexual behavior is an abomination to God.

While we seek to reflect the light of Christ to those lost in darkness, we are also called to be salt - a preserving agent - to our culture. Salt in an open wound can be an irritant - even painful. And, as we strive to bear witness to the Truth in a Christ-like manner, we will sometimes be perceived as irritating, an aggravation to those who "exchanged the Truth about God for a lie" [Romans 1:24].

Salt and light - a two-sided coin. Light shines forth Christ's love and forgiveness and bears witness to God's holiness. Light also shatters darkness. Salt purifies and preserves what is in danger

of rotting - sharply enhancing that which is tasteless. We are called to be both salt and light.

While we should take every opportunity to speak the Truth in love to those blinded by their sin, we also should be standing in opposition as our culture embraces and condones that sin. One such way to do so is, as good stewards, to choose carefully the corporations we support.

In 2008, American Family Association announced a boycott of McDonald's over the company's newly announced support for the homosexual community. McDonald's had not only made a large donation to the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC), but also placed a high ranking executive on the group's board of directors. Several months after the boycott was announced, McDonald's withdrew their support from the NGLCC.

Christian Today reported that in a memo to McDonald's franchisees in September of that year, McDonald's made clear that its policy was "to not be involved in political and social issues... McDonald's

remains neutral on same sex marriage or any 'homosexual agenda' as defined by the American Family Association."

It appears that the McDonald's corporation has once more changed its mind. In a new commercial airing in France, McDonald's makes its support for the homosexual community very clear, promoting homosexual relationships between high school-aged boys.

The ad ends with the words "Come as You Are" on the screen.

What is interesting is that after a promise to stay neutral on this issue, McDonald's breaks that promise with a deliberate slap in the face to those of us who oppose the promotion of homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle to our youth.

One way to be salt is to communicate to McDonald's that unless the company returns to its neutral policy, McDonald's will not be a fast food choice for you and your family.

McDonald's Corporation can be contacted at 1-800-244-6227.

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