

Explaining Your Beliefs About Homosexuality

Use this worksheet to help you think of tactful ways to explain your beliefs.

“Let your words always be gracious, . . . so that you will know how you should answer each person.”—Colossians 4:6.

1

“Bible standards are out-of-date!”

?



BEFORE REPLYING, CONSIDER:

Sometimes when people say that the Bible is out-of-date, what they *really* mean is that its standards differ from theirs. Do you think the person you’re talking with feels that *all* Bible standards are outdated—including its prohibition of theft, adultery, and murder? —Romans 13:8-10.

What factors might contribute to the person’s belief?

What questions could you ask to find out more about what the person is thinking?

What scripture(s) might apply?

CREATE YOUR REPLY

“Bible standards are out-of-date!”

“Some people say that. But I believe differently because . . .”

2

“Homosexuals can’t change the way they are—they were born that way.”

?

BEFORE REPLYING, CONSIDER:

The Bible doesn’t say whether homosexual desires are inherited or not. So instead of debating the *cause* of homosexuality, focus on the *conduct*.

Think of a comparison. What other kinds of conduct can be deeply ingrained? For example, Proverbs 29:22 says that some people are “*prone* to anger” and “*disposed* to rage.” The apostle Paul even said about himself: “When I wish to do what is right, what is bad is present with me.” (Romans 7:21) Must we always act on the urges that we feel?



What factors might contribute to the person’s belief?

What questions could you ask to find out more about what the person is thinking?

What scripture(s) might apply?

CREATE YOUR REPLY

“Homosexuals can’t change the way they are—they were born that way.”

“The Bible doesn’t say whether homosexual desires are inherited or not. What it *does* say is . . .”

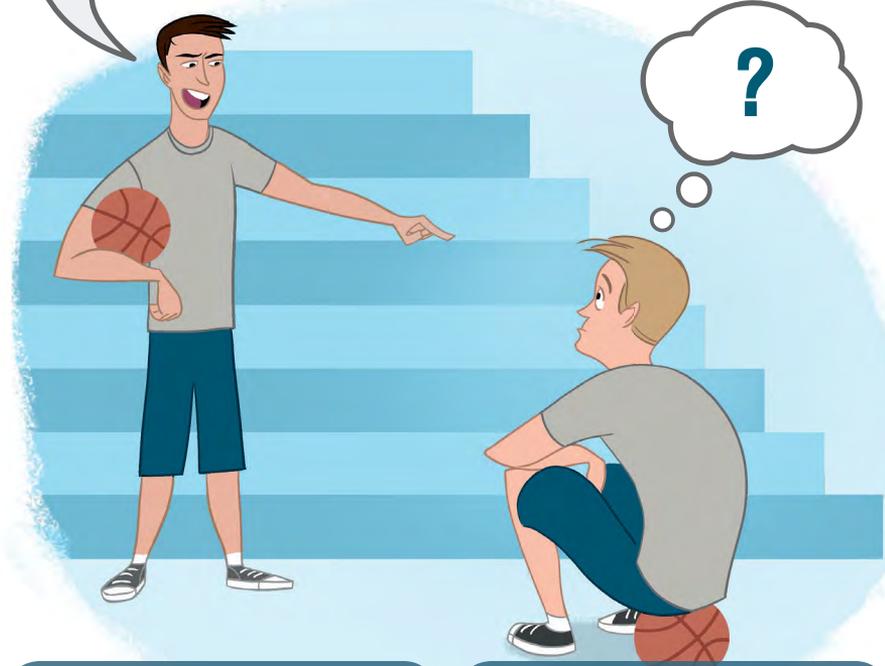
3

“You should change your view of homosexuality.”

BEFORE REPLYING, CONSIDER:

Might it be that the person has a friend or relative who is gay or lesbian? Does the person think that rejecting what someone *practices* makes you reject him or her as an *individual*? Does the person really *understand* your view of homosexuality?

Also: Are others being tolerant if they expect you to change your view to match theirs?



What factors might contribute to the person's belief?

What questions could you ask to find out more about what the person is thinking?

What scripture(s) might apply?

CREATE YOUR REPLY

“You should change your view of homosexuality.”

“I can understand why you might feel that way. However, . . .”

For more tips, see *Questions Young People Ask—Answers That Work*, Volume 1, Chapter 23: “How Can I Explain the Bible’s View of Homosexuality?” The book is available online at www.jw.org. Look under PUBLICATIONS > BOOKS & BROCHURES.