

69. (from LSO, Monday, September 29, 1997)

Subject: How can I effectively and in love minister to homosexuals?

Dear Dr. Ryrie: I understand that homosexuality is an evil sin against God. The Bible is very clear on this. How do you believe that we can effectively reach homosexual people for Christ without compromising God's Word? --Terry W.

Dear Terry: We reach homosexuals the same way we reach gossips, adulterers, proud people, and anyone who engages in sin. We try to ^{teach them to recognize what} expose them to what God says not only about their sin, but more especially what He says about how to have any and all sin forgiven through Christ. I think it is usually not very useful to try to convince homosexuals that their interpretations of the passages which deal with that issue are wrong or at ^{best} least flimsy, but you would do well to be acquainted with those misinterpretations. Then try to get them into Bible study, praying that the Holy Spirit will enlighten them and eventually convict them of that particular sin. If they renounce homosexuality, they will need a lot of caring love and support to reenter "straight" social and church circles. *Support groups*