

Black Rock Church  
Summary on the issue of Same-sex attraction

- We want all people to have the opportunity to respond to the gift of unearned grace through Jesus, which restores our identity before God regardless of past or present sexual experience.
- Consistent with this goal, we want our church-culture to be a place of welcome, respect, transparent dialogue and Biblical deference on all matters, including sexuality.
- As new creations in Christ, each person who follows Jesus is called to a life-long pursuit of holiness which requires the daily process of denying the tendencies of our natural selves in exchange for the fulfillment and flourishing that comes from a restored relationship with God. (Gal. 2:20, Matt. 16:24-25)
- The experience of same-sex attraction, just as in opposite-sex attraction, is distinct and differentiable from lust. Therefore, feelings of same-sex attraction are not in and of themselves sinful and do occur within some individuals who have received new identity through faith in Jesus. (1 Cor. 10:13, Heb. 4:15)
- For Christ-followers who experience same-sex attraction, the Biblically authentic sexual ethic is a commitment to holiness expressed through celibate singleness, just as it is for unmarried opposite-sex-attracted individuals. In alignment with Scripture, Christ-followers consider fornication, adultery and homosexual practice outside of God's will for His people and inconsistent with new life in Jesus. (1 Cor. 6:9-11)
- God intends the pursuit of holiness among Christ-followers to be lived within the context of gospel-enabled, relational community with other Christ-followers; consequently, we want to ensure that this community experience is possible for all Christ-followers within our church family. (Eph. 2:19-22)
- Christ-followers experiencing same-sex attraction who commit to a Biblical sexual ethic will find little, if any, support outside the church and so we commit to being an intentionally affirming, encouraging and shame-free home for these of our brothers and sisters in Christ.