

Homosexuality

Finding Hope in the Gospel

Presented by Dr. Rosaria Butterfield



embrace

Answers for Women DVD Series

Homosexuality

Finding Hope in the Gospel

Presented by Dr. Rosaria Butterfield

1. How did Rosaria enter into the world of homosexuality, suddenly or subtly? How can this be a wake-up call for us when it comes to things in our lives that seem innocent but can lead to sin?
2. In response to Rosaria's newspaper article, what did the letter from Pastor Ken Smith ask her to do? How can talking about worldviews be effective in witnessing to people who have a very different belief system from our own?
3. Rosaria said that Ken's letter was engaging and not mocking. How does this concept affect what you think, what you post on social media, and what you say to and about others with different beliefs and worldviews? How can we exhibit both truth and grace?
4. What did Ken and his wife not do when Rosaria had the first meal with them in their home? How did this make Rosaria feel? How might this practice affect current relationships you have with those who are unsaved?

5. How important to Rosaria's conversion was reading the Bible? Many times Christians are told to not use the Bible in defense of their faith because unbelievers won't acknowledge it as a source of truth. Why is this a false idea as it relates to the issue of authority?
6. In relation to Romans 1:18, Rosaria spoke of the Bible's internal mission as transforming the nature of humanity. She says that heathens know this mission, which is why the Bible seems scary to them. How might this affect your use of Scripture as you witness to others?
7. Rosaria stated that from God's point of view, homosexuality is an "identity-rooted, ethical outworking of original sin." (Compare Romans 1:21–27 with Genesis 3.) Homosexuality leads to an identity in something that God hates. We are all "born this way" distorted by sin. Does this challenge your view of the sin of homosexuality? Rosaria battled with this sin. What sins do you battle with?
8. Rosaria stated, "The Bible got to be bigger inside of me than I." In what areas of your life does the Bible need to become bigger than you?
9. How did Rosaria's understanding of original sin (Genesis 3) play a role in understanding the sin of homosexuality and her identity? How does this play a role in our lives as we better understand our sins and identity?

10. Rosaria's "train wreck" conversion cost her "everything but the dog." When you talk to people about the gospel, are you mindful of the great price some may have to pay for coming to know Christ as their Savior? What are some ways that you can help people "count the cost" and know a saving relationship with God is worth it? How can you provide practical help and guidance once people have converted?
11. Rosaria said that the "sinfulness of her sin" was something that was not present in the early years of her conversion. Rather the sinfulness of her sin was made known to her through the authority of the Bible and her growing relationship with Christ. Faith preceded feeling. How might this affect the way you view sins that you have repented of but maybe have not seen any change in your feelings toward that sin?
12. Before watching Rosaria's presentation, what were your thoughts and feelings about the sin of homosexuality? How have these changed? God can and does redeem and restore those who struggle with this sin. What will be your role in building relationships with, witnessing to, and helping those that identify as homosexuals to find their true identity in Christ?