

The Maybe God Podcast team aims to challenge assumptions and inspire more meaningful conversations among friends, family, and community groups. To that end, we'll provide a Study Guide for each episode we produce that listeners can use individually or in group settings for deeper learning and exploration.

MAYBE GOD PODCAST

Season 3, Episode 2 (Part 2) *Do Queer People Belong in the Church?*

Do you tend to agree with Julie and Eric that, for most Christians, this issue is really about what role the Bible should play in the lives of believers? Why or why not?

David Bennett

What stood out to you most about David Bennett's story?

Have you ever had an experience like the one David had in that gay bar? Maybe yours wasn't quite as dramatic, but do you remember a moment when you experienced God's presence and surrendered your heart to Him? What happened?

What are David's reasons for choosing celibacy and not condoning same-sex, monogamous relationships? Did you find yourself agreeing with him? Why or why not?

David said, "If we're constantly running away from our weaknesses, and we don't boast in them are not real about them, that's when this false Christian moralistic culture can take root, and I think that has destroyed the church and the witness of the church..." What are the weaknesses, temptations, or predispositions that you could stand to be more real about?

David discussed the dangers of basing your identity on something about yourself. On what (or whom) do you base your core identity?

Eric's Views

What does the story of the Ethiopian eunuch have to do with the modern-day controversy over LGBTQ+ people?

Why do you think Eric supports baptizing gay people and their kids, but not marrying same-sex couples?

Read [Leviticus 18:22](#), [1 Corinthians 6:9-11](#), [Romans 1:26-27](#), [1 Timothy 1:9-10](#), and [Mark 10:6-9](#). They are the most prominent passages in the Bible that speak to same-sex attraction. Do you agree with Eric that there is not much wiggle-room when it comes to same-sex attraction in the Bible? Why or why not?

How does Eric say Christians should treat LGBTQ+ people in our lives, and how is that different from what you might expect?

Aimee

What stood out to you about the story of Aimee, Rosemary, and Mark?

What difference did Mark make in the lives of Rosemary and Aimee? Given Mark's background and sexual orientation, what does that tell you about how God works?

Summary

Eric encourages churches to be willing to welcome LGBTQ+ people, and not just superficially, but as full members. He said, "Let's open the church up to everyone, let's teach the Bible, and then let God sort out the rest." Do you agree with his approach? Why or why not?

What can you do to be more like Jesus toward those with whom you disagree on the topics presented in this episode?