

Speaker:



Name and Role: Debra (Dee) Baty (Two Sessions)

Bio: A charter member of the WCA, Debra Baty has served as a member of the Accountable Discipleship Task Force, as the Chair of the Sexuality Task Force,¹ and as a member of the WCA Global Council. Debra is dedicated to equipping the church regarding the stewardship of creation along with sexuality and gender. She is the author of the Resources4Redemption newsletter, established in May of 2016, (available on Substack since June of 2020) serving to equip followers of Jesus to speak the gospel fluently, truthfully, and kindly on issues related to sexuality. Along with Mark Ongley and Garry Ingraham, she is a speaker for the 3 C Seminars on Sexuality and Gender. A member of Asbury Church, Debra is also a fan of Lewis and Tolkien. Both she and her husband enjoy backpacking, kayaking, cycling, and other outdoor activities.

***Topic (Session 1)** Sexual Holiness and Relational Apologetics

How can we answer questions and accusations regarding sexual holiness in ways that build closer relationships with family and friends, and encourage them to look to Jesus? It has become easy to dismiss the Biblical Christian sexual ethic as “-phobic” or hateful, yet there are ways we can call these false assumptions into question, and deepen our connections with those around us. The Lord is drawing people to Himself out of the chaos of sexuality and gender in our culture, and we will share examples in this talk.

***Topic (Session 2)** Sexual Redemption – Ministry Approaches

What does sexual redemption look like, and what is the best way to approach ministry in this area of our lives? What can we learn and build upon from where ministries excelled in the past? What can we learn from past ministry mistakes and how can we make the needed changes in the support we offer today? How can we sort through current ministry options for pastors and churches and where can we find reliable people to call for help with specific questions? How can we help shape realistic expectations and walk alongside those who are struggling with any sexual sin? We will discuss the answers to these questions and more.

Contact: Resources4r@gmail.com

The Bible and Homosexual Practice: Texts and Hermeneutics by Robert A. J. Gagnon.

<https://www.amazon.com/Bible-Homosexual-Practice-Texts-Hermeneutics/dp/0687022797>

Gagnon offers the most thorough analysis to date of the biblical texts relating to homosexuality. He demonstrates why attempts to classify the Bible's rejection of same-sex intercourse as irrelevant for our contemporary context fail to do justice to the biblical texts and to current scientific data.

Seeing Black and White in a Gray World: The Need for Theological Reasoning in the Church's Debate Over Sexuality, by Bill T. Arnold

<https://www.amazon.com/Seeing-Black-White-Gray-World/dp/1628240997>

Some things are perfectly obvious and clear to anyone. Such truths require no further argument or persuasion. They are undisputed certainties. They are black or white.

On the other hand, some topics are not perfectly obvious to all rational people. These are disputed assertions, about which sincere thinking people often disagree. These are not black-and-white issues but are instead "gray areas," or issues about which reasonable people can agree to disagree.

Slaves, Women & Homosexuals: Exploring the Hermeneutics of Cultural Analysis, by William J. Webb.

<https://www.amazon.com/Slaves-Women-Homosexuals-Exploring-Hermeneutics/dp/0830815619>

In Slaves, Women & Homosexuals William J. Webb tackles some of the most complex and controversial issues that have challenged the Christian church--and still do.

He leads you through the maze of interpretation that has historically surrounded understanding of slaves, women and homosexuals, and he evaluates various approaches to these and other biblical-ethical teachings. Throughout, Webb attempts to "work out the hermeneutics involved in distinguishing that which is merely cultural in Scripture from that which is timeless" (Craig A. Evans).

What the Bible Really Teaches About Homosexuality, by Kevin DeYoung

<https://www.amazon.com/Bible-Really-Teach-about-Homosexuality/dp/1433549379>

In this timely book, award-winning author Kevin DeYoung challenges each of us—the skeptic and the seeker, the certain and the confused—to take a humble look at God’s Word regarding the issue of homosexuality.

“The Bible and Same Sex Relationships,” by Tim Keller.

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/reviews/bible-sex-relationships/>

“Assessing God and the Gay Christian,” a seven-part series by Joe Dallas.

<https://joedallas.com/2014/05/05/assessing-god-and-the-gay-christian-part-one-of-five/>

Today’s church is being asked – pressured, really – to follow the culture’s lead, and the culture is leading towards wholesale approval of homosexuality. So Matthew Vine’s new book God and the Gay Christian is a fresh, eloquent, and well publicized addition to the pressure.

The Gospel Comes with a House Key: Practicing Radically Ordinary Hospitality in Our PostChristian World, by Rosaria Butterfield.

<https://www.amazon.com/Gospel-Comes-House-Key-Post-Christian/dp/143355786X>

With this story of her conversion as a backdrop, Rosaria Butterfield invites us into her home to show us how God can use this same “radical, ordinary hospitality” to bring the gospel to our lost friends and neighbors.

Boundaries, by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend.

<https://www.boundariesbooks.com/>

For the Body: Recovering a Theology of Gender, Sexuality, and the Human Body, by Dr.

Timothy Tennent.

<https://my.seedbed.com/product/for-the-body/>

In For the Body, author Timothy Tennent looks at what it means to be created in the image of God and how our bodies serve as icons that illuminate God's purposes. Tennent examines topics like marriage, family, singleness, and friendship, and he looks at how the human body has been objectified in art and media today. He also offers a framework for discipling people today in a Christian theology of the body.

“What Does the Bible Say About Transgenderism?”

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/kevin-deyoung/what-does-the-bible-say-about-transgenderism/>

Some would argue that the Bible says nothing about the explosion of the transgender phenomenon in the Western world. After all, there is no verse that says, “Thou shalt not transition from a man to a woman.” But neither are there any verses that talk explicitly about gun violence, anorexia, waterboarding, fossil fuels, vaccines, GMOs, HMOs, or Pokemon Go. We should not expect the Bible to speak in 21st century terms to every 21st-century eventuality.

The Wounded Heart, by Dr. Dan Allender.

<https://theallendercenter.org/store/products/the-wounded-heart/>

Sexual abuse knows no religious or social boundaries. Acclaimed, groundbreaking, and as essential as when it was first published, The Wounded Heart: Hope for Adult Victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse is an intensely personal and specific look at this form of abuse.

Counseling Survivors of Sexual Abuse, by Dr. Diane Langberg.

https://www.amazon.com/Counseling-Survivors-Sexual-Abuse-Library/dp/1591605199/ref=la_B001KJ2IX2_1_3?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1510416073&sr=1-3

This powerful book deals with the issue of how Christians, especially those called to counsel, can help survivors of sexual abuse find healing and hope. From 20 years of experience, the author demonstrates how counselors can walk alongside people deeply wounded by sexual abuse as they face the truth about who they are, who their abuser was, and who God is as the Savior and Redeemer of all life.

Redeeming Power, Understanding Authority and Abuse in the Church, by Dr. Diane Langberg.

https://www.amazon.com/Redeeming-Power-Understanding-Authority-Church/dp/1587434385/ref=mp_s_a_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=redeeming+power+understanding+authority+and+abuse+in+the+church&qid=1584812721&srefix=redeeming+power&sr=8-1

Power has a God-given role in human relationships and institutions, but it can lead to abuse when used in unhealthy ways. Speaking into current #MeToo and #ChurchToo conversations, this book shows that the body of Christ desperately needs to understand the forms power takes, how it is abused, and how to respond to abuses of power.