

## THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this good problem as we look for a future permanent home that Element can move into that will be larger and have some proper Air Conditioning. There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus and people, we hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here.

- The Element Team

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### BAPTISMS

**TODAY AT 1pm**

**1371 Solomon Road**

Lunch: Taco Salad Bar

Last names bring:

A-L: Desserts M-Z: Taco/Salad Toppings

### JOIN OUR WEEKLY EMAIL

**Stay up to date in your inbox!**

Sign up at [ourelement.org](http://ourelement.org) or email [connect@ourelement.org](mailto:connect@ourelement.org) and say, "Join mailing list"

### MEN'S BREAKFAST & BBQ

**THIS SATURDAY: BBQ & Arcade Game Fun at the Keinert's**

RSVP required at [moe@ourelement.org](mailto:moe@ourelement.org).

# PART 2 WHAT! — IN THE — WORLD?

ACTS 4:12  
GENESIS 1  
PSALM 90:2  
GALATIANS 4:4-5  
MATTHEW 9:12

MARK 2:17  
LUKE 5:31  
GENESIS 1:28  
GENESIS 2:18  
GENESIS 2:21

GENESIS 2:4  
MALACHI 2:15  
MATTHEW 19:4-6  
MARK 10:6-9  
REVELATION 21-22

## SEVEN: THE BIBLE & HOMOSEXUALITY

# SEVEN: THE BIBLE AND HOMOSEXUALITY

At the end of last year, Element did a series that answered some common questions about scripture that people have commonly asked. As the series ended, we asked the people of Element to write down their own questions that we would answer in 2017. Here we are in Part 2 of this series and the question, “What does the Bible say about homosexuality?” is definitely one of those topics that makes us take a deep breath as we think, “Hmmm!” Kevin DeYoung’s book, *What Does the Bible Really Teach about Homosexuality?* is a great resource for this challenging topic.

There are 1189 chapters in the bible, with over 30,000 verses, and only a dozen or so will deal directly with homosexuality. That does not mean the “traditional” view of marriage is based on nothing more than a few fragments; it means there was a way of life that was accepted for millennia and most didn’t feel the need to create a case for a marriage being between a man and a woman because it was simply a given in Jewish and Christian realms. The controversy today was not dreamed up by evangelicals; the blogs and books written by “traditionalists” are only entering the conversation because it was started by others.

This dialog is a good thing if we can all approach it with grace for one another in how we talk about it and treat one another.

**What is one of the most controversial things where the Scriptures and our culture clash?**

**When you heard this message, either at Element on Sunday, on the podcast, or watching the video, what stood out or surprised you?**

God’s word, the Scriptures, applies to every area of life and we don’t get to pick and choose what parts of the Bible we want to listen to and which ones we don’t. The Gospel isn’t a selection of rules we follow, but the story of an ongoing redemptive relationship between a kindly intentioned

Creator and His creation. This week’s What in the World?! question deals with a topic where there seems to be a clash between God’s Word and our surrounding Culture.

**What is the story told in the Bible?**

**Who does the Bible say God is?**

We know from the message last Sunday that the Bible isn’t a book about homosexuality, or adultery, or idolatry, or lying, or sin, or war, or peace, or love, but it does say SOMETHING about these topics. These topics can only be understood within the greater narrative framework of the Biblical story of the Gospel.

**Read James 2:8-13.**

**What does the Bible say about sin?**

**When you think of holiness, what comes to mind?**

Most of us will have an opportunity to interact with friends, colleagues, or family on the topic of homosexuality as well as many other challenging issues. As followers of Jesus we must continually come back to the central premise that Jesus is our Rescuer and Redeemer; that we are not saved by our works, but through His work on our behalf.

**Read Acts 4:12 and Hebrews 12:3-6 and 12-15.**

**How can we weave the redemptive truth of God’s plan into daily conversations?**

**What does it mean to grow in the holiness Jesus has?**

Because the story of the Bible is the bigger story of God’s great love for us, this week let’s look to Him to show us who He is, what He has done, who we are in light of what He has done, and (super exciting) what we do based on who we are as God’s family!