

hope for wholeness

CONTACT OUR STAFF

McKrae Game, Executive Director
mckrae@truthministry.org

Nylene Wilds, Office Manager
nwilds@truthministry.org

Tom Vinegar, Men's Leader
tvinegar@truthministry.org

Miranda Pettit, Women's Leader
mpettit@truthministry.org

Bill Creech, Family Leader
bcreech@truthministry.org

Rita Smith, Evangel Cathedral Leader
rsmith@truthministry.org

Paula Jones, Simpsonville Family Leader
pjones@truthministry.org

Meleah Allard, WNC Director
mallard@truthministry.org

Stacy Pope, Georgetown Director
spope@truthministry.org

Brian Titus, Myrtle Beach Director
btitus@truthministry.org

Elsie Odom, Augusta Director
eodom@truthministry.org

The Voice of Truth is a monthly publication of Truth Ministry, available by email or US mail. For the US mail version we request an annual donation of \$35.00.

PO Box 5781
Spartanburg, SC 29304
864-583-7606

www.truthministry.org
www.hopeforwholeness.com

Who do you know that may need help from Truth Ministry? Give them this newsletter or tell them about our ministry.

Reaching Out By Miranda Pettit

Recently I was invited by two professors at one of our local women's colleges to share my perspective as part of a dialogue on homosexuality and faith in one of their classes. I've been honored to do this on several occasions, and I welcomed the opportunity again this year. In the past I have mostly shared my personal testimony of change, but this time I chose to use an academic approach rather than just telling my own story.



Though it can be encouraging to hear an individual message of hope and change, my testimony is just my personal experience. And though some relate to my testimony, others do not. I believe it's much more important for listeners to be equipped with information to help them understand and love those who struggle with same-sex attractions or identify as homosexual. There is a tremendous amount of ignorance, stereotyping, myths, and misinformation on this subject, and until people become more aware and educated, these misunderstandings will remain.

During the 40-minute class, I shared some of the "causes" of same-sex attractions, what change does and doesn't look like, and what people should and shouldn't do in the attempt to "help" someone who is struggling with unwanted same-sex attractions. Here are some outtakes from that day.

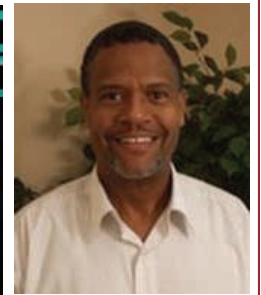
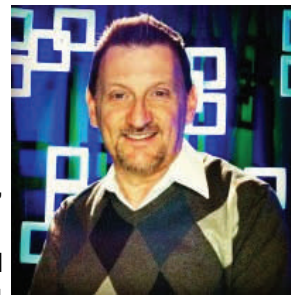
Change will always be different for each person. Many people erroneously believe that marriage is evidence of change. For many, marriage is not an option or desire. It certainly doesn't make one less changed if he or she does not marry.

Other people believe that an external change – hair, makeup, clothes, and mannerisms – is evidence of spiritual change. I've had several women in counseling appointments ask me about their appearance (short hair, clothes) and if they need to change it. My main focus is helping to find healing for the inner brokenness, not their appearance. If they are concerned about attracting more

Continued on pg. 2

Reach 2013 Church Equipping Event—March 23

Learn how to effectively witness and minister to those affected by homosexuality at this exciting event.



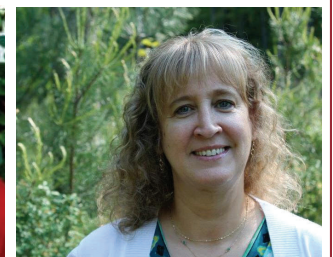
Speakers include Tony Moore, Tom Vinegar, McKrae Game, Meleah Allard and more.

This event is for Pastors, Youth Leaders, and anyone involved in church leadership or wanting to learn more.

Regular Registration: \$50 (with Spouse: \$80 must call)
Five or More Registrations: \$40 (must call in)
Student rate: \$25.00

We also offer DVD registrations, for those attending or those that cannot make it.

Box lunch will be sold separately - \$10



Christian Assembly of God, Wade Hampton Blvd. Greenville, SC

For more information call our office at 864-583-7606

Register online at www.truthministry.org

attention than they desire for “looking” gay, then I encourage them to start making small changes that they find comfortable to help them present a new image. Behavioral changes will vary depending on the person and her circumstances. When my life changed nearly 9 years ago, I wanted my appearance also to reflect those changes. My more masculine attire and mannerisms brought unwanted attention and assumptions, so I made changes to reflect a different person.

Many methods used with the best intentions to help those who struggle with SSA can produce great damage and harm. For instance, there is no cure for homosexuality because it is not a disorder or a disease. You cannot find a drug, a therapy, or a program that will “fix” or cure a homosexual. If a child or teen discloses a struggle with SSA, don’t assume it is a phase or something that will go away. Also, finding the “right” guy or girl is also not the answer. I have heard that said many times when talking to parents. They blame immature, abusive, or wrong guys on their daughter’s struggle, but that is not the case. The perfect guy or girl will not bring completion or healing to the struggler.


There are many other wrong methods, but I want to address the one that not only breaks my heart, but also speaks to the very core of my faith: the hellfire & brimstone approach. This one is often perpetuated by those who protest Gay Pride and other pro-gay events with “There is no water in hell” or “God hates fags” signs; the ones who call the homosexual an abomination; the ones who reject and condemn the homosexual person, not the behavior. I have been on the receiving end of hate, condemnation, and rejection. I was told I was going to hell and believed that God was mad at me because of my SSA. I didn’t feel loved, worthy, or even human at times. I was a Christian, yet I was lost; I was hurting and confused, yet people treated me like I was to be avoided and misunderstood.

The ignorance of many who call themselves Christians hurts and angers me. Even more disheartening, because I am a Christian, I am aligned with those who display such condemnation for homosexuals, grouping me in the same homophobic, hate-filled category as these people. Surprisingly, many Christians disapprove of and disagree with our ministry – they believe we should be more condemning in our approach: we should bully them with the Bible as our weapon, tell them that God hates their detestable behavior, and remind them of eternity in hell for those who do not change.

Scripture, however, tell us—Do you not know that it is the goodness of God leads you to repentance? Romans 2:4

Just as I told the class, hate doesn’t change people’s lives; it only produces more hate. It wasn’t hate and condemnation in my life that changed me, but those who were gracious, kind, loving, and understanding; those who took the time to talk to me, *show* me God’s goodness, mercy, and grace, and accept me where I was. It wasn’t the religious zealots telling my eternal punishment for my choices and behavior, but those who told me that God had so much more for me and there was hope for change—I didn’t have to choose to follow my feelings even if I didn’t understand them. What years of heartache I may have avoided had someone come to one of my classes to share a testimony of hope...a testimony to help me understand some of the reasons of why I struggled for so long.

As one who has experienced both sides of the issue, I greatly appreciate the two professors inviting me to share a message that is so needed today: a message that brings understanding, truth, hope, and love. My heart and my hope were to convey that message to this group of young adults. 🙏

Resources Available on 

Subscribe to our YouTube channel: [McKraeOnline](#)

In 2006, we recorded a 2 part DVD tool that we have utilized in ministry, titled *Keys to Understanding Male Homosexuality and Gender Development*. This has been used with our male clients and families of men for the last number of years. This has been a valuable tool that has blessed many. It helps them understand this complicated subject quickly, and helps us help them at their own pace. Many young men have sat in my office and cried as they said that they could see their lives being laid out before them as they watched the video. Many parents have shared that they could see their son and family dynamic and helped them understand and have more empathy toward their son.

We’ve not just used this with our in office clients and satellite clients but also offered it through our online bookstore. If they could not afford it, clients were allowed to borrow the resource and return it after watching. We’ve also shipped it around the country to be utilized in phone or Skype counseling.

While this resource is a number of years old, its content is still just as valuable as the day it was filmed. We will soon release an updated version of these two videos, as one combined video. Also in the works, we are creating many more videos for each category of ministry that we have within Truth Ministry. As a part of this, **we decided to now offer these videos free on YouTube in hopes of helping many more. If you would like to watch these, they are now available. If you find value in them, please consider contributing to our efforts.** In addition to these, we have also posted online the full version of Lesson One from Hope For Wholeness.

Truth Ministry has ongoing operating expenses, that welcome your partnership in covering, but we now have the added expense of building two entirely new websites due to technical issues. **Please consider partnering with us, as the Lord utilizes this ministry to reach many.**



Keys to Understanding Male Homosexuality - Part 1
19 views

This is an instructional video on male homosexuality. We’ve sold Prt 1&2 for \$40. We’ve decided to make them public and free of charge. If you find them helpful, feel free to share and consider supporting



Gender Development - Part 2
4 views

This is an instructional video on male homosexuality. We’ve sold Prt 1&2 for \$40. We’ve decided to make them public and free of charge. If you find them helpful, feel free to share and consider supporting



Hope For Wholeness Lesson One
29 views

This is the pre-release version of Lesson One from the Hope For Wholeness video series. It does not contain the testimonials that are spliced throughout on the final version. Similar testimonials can be