



PASTOR KELLY'S

GUIDE

TO

AFFIRMING

SCRIPTURES

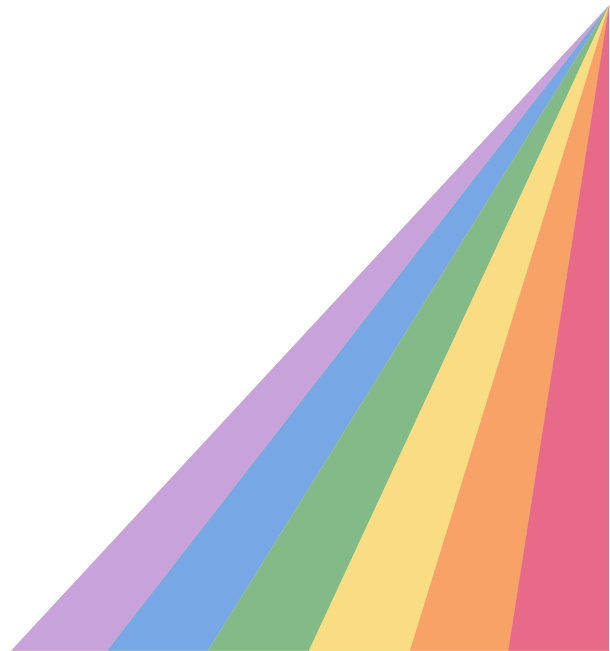
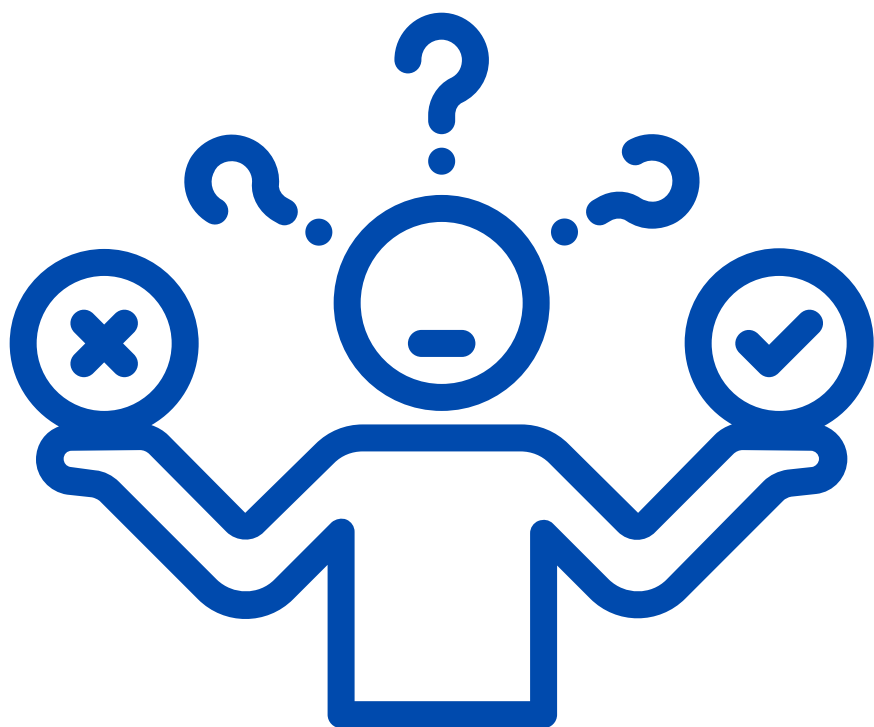




MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD...

**THE BIBLE SAYS
HOMOSEXUALITY IS A SIN.**

**THEN, IF PRESSED, THESE
FOLKS THROW OUT SOME
SCRIPTURE. GENESIS 19,
LEVITICUS 18 AND 20,
ROMANS 1, 1 CORINTHIANS 6,
1 TIMOTHY 1, AND JUDE 6-7.**

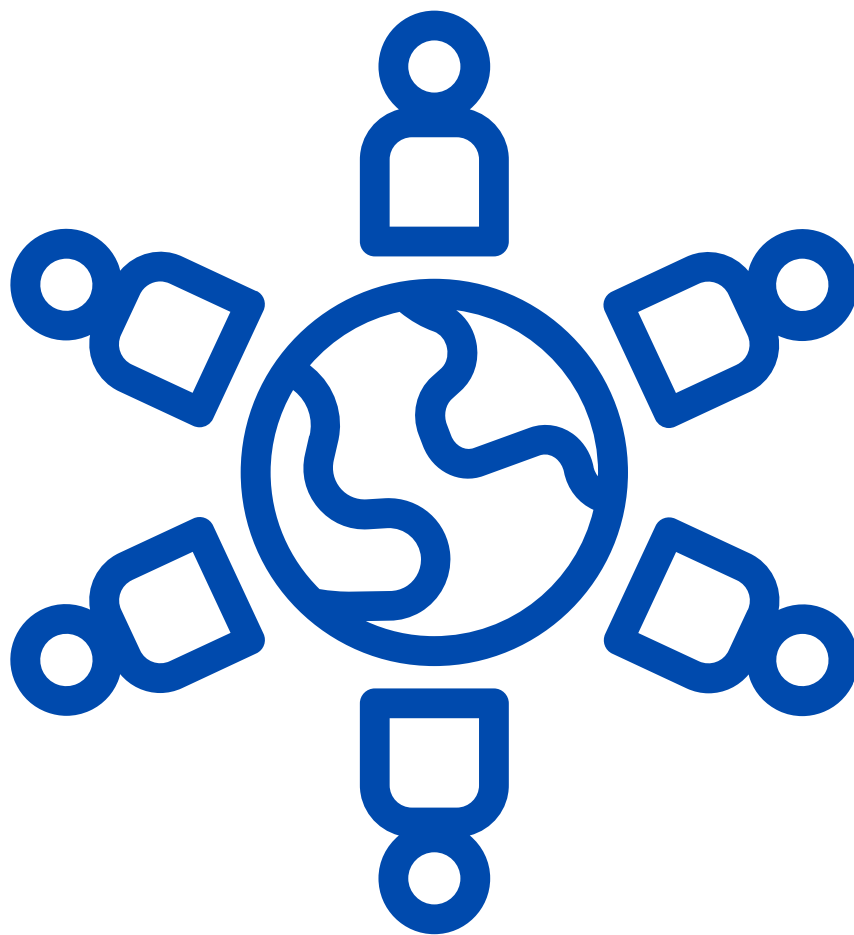


A diagonal rainbow graphic with stripes of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple, pointing towards the top left corner.

WHEN REALLY...

**LOOKING AT SCHOLARSHIP
AND CULTURAL CONTEXT,
THESE VERSES ARE ACTUALLY
TALKING AGAINST SINS OF
INHOSPITALITY AND ABUSE.**

(CHECK IT OUT FOR YOURSELF)



SO WHAT DOES SCRIPTURE SAY?



A diagonal rainbow graphic with stripes of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple, pointing towards the top left corner.

1 JOHN 4

**THE EPISTLES (LITTLE LETTERS)
OF JOHN THE APOSTLE AFFIRM
FOR US THE MOST BASIC
UNDERSTANDING OF THEOLOGY:
GOD IS LOVE.**

**AND BECAUSE GOD IS LOVE, WE
ARE CALLED TO LOVE ONE
ANOTHER. NO QUALIFICATIONS,
NO CONDITIONS.**

WE LOVE BECAUSE GOD LOVES.





GALATIANS 5

STILL NOT CONVINCED? OUR FAVORITE (OR LEAST FAVORITE) APOSTLE PAUL HAS US COVERED. GALATIANS 5 HIGHLIGHTS THE SUMMARY OF THE WHOLE LAW. LOVE. LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR.

NOT JUST THE PEOPLE YOU KNOW. NOT JUST THE PEOPLE YOU UNDERSTAND. NOT JUST THE PEOPLE WHO LOOK AND LIVE LIKE YOU.

WHEN WE DO THAT, WE EMBODY THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT: JOY, PEACE, KINDNESS, GENEROSITY, AND A LOAD OF OTHER GOOD THINGS.

MATTHEW 22

**AND OF COURSE, THAT GUY
JESUS SAID IT, TOO.**

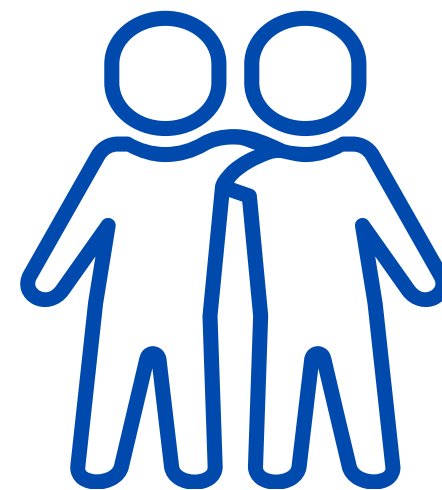
**HIS STATEMENT WAS EVEN
MORE CLEAR (NO SURPRISE)
THAN PAUL BECAUSE HE WAS
SPEAKING TO A BUNCH OF
RELIGIOUS FOLKS WHO WERE
TRYING TO TRIP HIM UP.**

**RATHER THAN GET WORKED UP,
HE SHARED THE GOOD NEWS:
LOVE GOD AND LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOR. THE LAW AND
PROPHETS HANG ON THESE
TRUTHS.**



A diagonal rainbow graphic with stripes of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple, extending from the top left corner.

GENESIS 2



**THE SECOND CREATION STORY
CULMINATES IN GOODNESS
BECAUSE ADAM (HUMAN, NOT
JUST MAN) IS NOT ALONE.**

**ADAM HAS EVE (PARTNER OR
HELPER), WHICH MEANS IT'S
PARTNERSHIP THAT IS DESIGNED
AND BLESSED BY GOD.
PARTNERSHIP IMPLIES MUTUAL
BENEFIT AND MUTUAL
CONTRIBUTION BY THE PEOPLE
INVOLVED. THIS IS THE
FOUNDATION OF BIBILICAL
FAMILY OR CONNECTION -
LOVE AND MUTUALITY!**

A diagonal rainbow graphic with stripes of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple, extending from the bottom right corner.

ISAIAH 43



BUT BEYOND JUST THE CALL TO LOVE (WHICH SOME HAVE USED TO CAUSE HARM), WE ALSO HAVE CELEBRATIONS OF NEWNESS AND RESISTANCE.

THAT'S WHAT THE PROPHET IS TALKING ABOUT IN ISAIAH 43. GOD FORMED US AND MADE US, RELISHING IN THE JOY OF ALL OF WHO WE ARE. AND THEN GOD WARNS US THIS IS GOING TO BE DIFFERENT! WATCH OUT - I'M DOING A NEW THING, GOD SAYS. YOU MIGHT NOT PERCEIVE IT, BUT NO FEAR, YOU ARE STILL MINE.

ACTS 8

WE EVEN HAVE STORIES OF QUEER PEOPLE (LOOK UP THE HISTORY OF EUNUCHS) WHO ARE CELEBRATED FOR SEEKING GOD! THE ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH IS NOT ONLY WELCOMED INTO THE HEAVENLY FAMILY THROUGH BAPTISM, BUT THEY WERE ALREADY EXPLORING SCRIPTURES ON THEIR OWN.

PROOF THAT QUEER FOLKS WILL ALWAYS HAVE AN AVENUE TO FAITH, EVEN IF THE CHURCH DOESN'T PROVIDE US WITH ONE.



A diagonal rainbow graphic with stripes of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple, extending from the top left corner.

JOHN 9



**WHEN WE SEE HEALING IN
SCRIPTURE, IT ISN'T ABOUT
TAKING AWAY THE THING THE
WORLD DEEMS "BAD" OR
"OTHER." IT'S ABOUT
RESTORATION TO COMMUNITY.**

**THE BOY BORN BLIND IS
OUTCAST FOR SO LONG
BECAUSE HIS COMMUNITY IS
CONVINCED HE OR HIS
PARENTS SINNED TO CAUSE
THIS.**

**WHEN JESUS ARRIVES, THE
RECORD IS CORRECTED:
PEOPLE ARE DIFFERENT SO
THAT GOD MIGHT BE
GLORIFIED!**

A diagonal rainbow graphic with stripes of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple, extending from the bottom right corner.



MATTHEW 15

**THERE ARE GOING TO BE TIMES
WHEN WE MESS UP.
WHEN WE LEAVE PEOPLE OUT.
WHEN WE'RE SO CONVINCED
THERE'S NOT ENOUGH WE
CLOSE RANKS AND HOARD
RESOURCES.**

**BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT GOD
INTENDS FOR US. AND WHEN
WE GET IT WRONG, WHEN WE
LEAVE CRUMBS FOR OTHERS,
WE ARE CALLED TO RECOGNIZE
OUR MISTAKES, RECALIBRATE
TO GOD'S EXPANSIVE LOVE,
AND MAKE ROOM AT THE
TABLE. AFTER ALL, THAT'S
WHAT JESUS DID.**

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner consisting of several parallel diagonal lines in a rainbow color palette (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple).

A diagonal rainbow graphic with stripes of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple, pointing towards the top left corner.

ISAIAH 56

**SO WHAT DOES SCRIPTURE ALL
COME DOWN TO? LOVE.**

**LOVE LOOKS LIKE INCLUSION.
DON'T LET THE FOREIGNER SAY
"I DON'T BELONG" OR THE
EUNUCH SAY "I'M NOT WORTH
ANYTHING." FOR THE LORD
DECLARES THOSE WHO KEEP
GOD'S COVENANT AND DO
GOOD WORKS IN GOD'S NAME
WILL BE A BELOVED CHILD OF
GOD FOREVER.**



JUST THE BEGINNING...



THIS IS IN NO WAY A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO EVERY SCRIPTURE THAT AFFIRMS QUEER FOLKS; LET ALONE SCRIPTURES THAT AFFIRMS PEOPLE OF ALL KINDS ON THE MARGINS. THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING! ENOUGH TO GET YOU STARTED ON YOUR OWN JOURNEY OF A JUST AND INCLUSIVE FAITH, AS GOD INTENDED.



**NO MATTER WHAT, HEAR
THIS PASTOR SAY:
YOU ARE LOVED.
YOU ARE ENOUGH.
YOU ARE CELEBRATED
JUST AS YOU ARE.**

**SPREAD THE WORD -
GOOD NEWS
OF GREAT JOY
FOR ALL PEOPLE.**

