## "How Do You Respond to Vicky Beeching's Coming Out as Gay and Proud?"

Dear Sue,

Did you happen to see this in the past few days? <u>Vicky</u>
<u>Beeching, Star of the Christian Rock Scene: I'm Gay. God Loves</u>
<u>Me Just the Way I Am</u>

What am I supposed to make of it? I have searched the scriptures, poured my heart out to God over the years and still struggling. I cannot work out how she came up with this view, but it is really rocking my world view and I am in serious danger of coming unstuck. I am starting to wonder if my understanding of Scripture, of this being wrong and the reasons why for all these years is incorrect and it has made me so depressed since I read this article.

My heart hurts for Vicky.

Yes, she experiences same-sex attraction (SSA) and yes, God loves her just the way she is, but He loves her too much to leave her there. Her SSA is like the red light on the dashboard of a car. It means something is wrong under the hood that needs attention. God loves her just the way she is but He wants to bring healing to her heart. She may identify as gay, but God won't agree to that identity. He would say, "You are My beloved daughter, created in My image and for My glory."

100 years from today, when she is in heaven, she will not be saying she's gay. Sexuality is only for this earth. If something about us is temporary, then it shouldn't be our identity. That's why God, who doesn't make anyone gay (anymore than He makes anyone selfish or bigoted or self-centered), won't agree with her confusion about her identity.

I think it's good to acknowledge when one has a "thorn in the flesh" (2 Cor. 12:7). But saying it is good and it's fine and God accepts it as His intention and design is wrong. It would be better to say, "I experience same-sex attraction, and I need help to find out where it came from and what to do about it." And I would say, after fifteen years of helping people deal with unwanted SSA, that the way to deal with the holes in one's heart is intimacy with the Father and the Son and the Spirit. The problem driving SSA is a sense of disconnection, of not belonging or being attached. The way that is resolved is by focusing on Jesus, who said in John 14:23 of His Father, "We will come to him and make Our home with him." Resting in the indwelling Father, Son and Spirit is how that hole is filled.

Blessing you,

Sue Bohlin

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