

A yellow square containing the text 'WHEN -CULTURES- CLASH'. 'WHEN' is in a small, light font at the top. '-CULTURES-' is in a large, bold, black font in the middle. 'CLASH' is in a large, black, handwritten-style font at the bottom.

WHEN  
**-CULTURES-**  
CLASH

## #3 – What If I Am Same-Sex Attracted? *Various Passages*

**Pastor Todd Dugard**  
**November 16, 2014**

- 
1. Wesley Hill, a celibate gay professor of New Testament, wrote, “Homosexuality was not God’s original creative intention for humanity [but is], on the contrary, a tragic sign of human nature and relationships being fractured by sin, and therefore homosexual practice goes against God’s express will for all human beings, especially those who trust in Christ.” Unpack the logic of Hill’s argument. What are your thoughts?
  2. *Acting on your attraction is sin* (Romans 8:22-23; Hebrews 4:15; James 1:14-15). Discuss the following progression: affected by sin—tempted to sin—desirous of sin—committed sin. Where do you draw the line between attraction and action? Why is this an important distinction? How does this principle apply to all areas of temptation?
  3. *Identifying by your attraction is shortsighted* (Galatians 3:26-29). What three categories of identity are mentioned in this passage? How significant should these identities be for the follower of Christ? Why? What should our primary identity be? How does this truth apply to the person who wants to identify as a “gay Christian”?
  4. *Battling your attraction is essential*. Pastor Todd quoted someone who said, “Same-sex attractions should be fought with blood-earnestness in a way that recognizes the deceitfulness of the heart the finitude of the mind.” What does this statement mean?
    - *Separate yourself from temptation and sin* (1 Corinthians 10:13; Matthew 5:30; 2 Timothy 2:22a). What kind of language do these verses use re distancing yourself from temptation? What does this indicate?
    - *Fill your heart and mind with God’s Word* (Psalm 119:11; Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:16a). How does Scripture enable you to fight temptation? Has this been your experience? Why is the battleground first and foremost in your mind?
    - *Involve yourself in uncommon community* (Genesis 2:18; John 13:35). How can a community of loving Christ followers help you resist sin? What can happen in community that can’t happen in isolation?
  5. Do you think it is possible to choose celibacy (whether gay or straight) and live a completely satisfying and joyful life relationally? Why or why not?
  6. *Overcoming your attraction is going to happen* (1 Peter 1:6-7). Why is the certainty of this statement more important than the timing? How so? How will all of our attractions and affections be turned toward Christ one day?