

The logo for 'When Cultures Clash' features the word 'WHEN' in a small, light font at the top, '-CULTURES-' in a large, bold, black font in the middle, and 'CLASH' in a large, black, handwritten-style font at the bottom. The entire logo is set against a solid yellow background.

WHEN
-CULTURES-
CLASH

THE SAME-SEX QUESTION
#1 – Let Us Reason Together
Various Passages

Pastor Todd Dugard
November 2, 2014

Seven assumptions about the same-sex question . . .

1. *The stakes are high.* To what degree has this issue impacted our *society* over the last decade or so? Can you think of some specific examples? How is it similarly impacting the Christian *church*? What three basic views are there within evangelicalism? If you feel comfortable sharing, how has this issue impacted you *personally*?
2. *The answers are increasingly elusive.* And this is because the questions are increasingly complicated. Make a list of some of the very difficult LGBTQ-related queries that we are facing today. Which one(s) is most concerning for you? Why?
3. *The rhetoric and emotion are not helpful.* Why do you think that both LGBTQ advocates and zealous believers are frequently provocative in their communication? Why does it seem to be so difficult for Christ followers to be “full of grace and truth” (John 1:14b) in what we say and how we say it on this subject? Why is it so crucial that we follow Jesus’ example in this?
4. *The words we use matter.* Look up Proverbs 12:18 and 2 Corinthians 5:17-20. What do these passages suggest about being careful in our choice of terms, specifically related to the same-sex question? Which words have you used in the past/are you currently using that should be replaced with something more conciliatory?
5. *The heart of the matter is authority.* All of us submit to the authority of someone or something. What are some of those authorities? Our Harvest statement of faith says, “Scripture is fully trustworthy as our final and sufficient authority for all of life.” What does it look like to affirm the Bible’s authority in your life? Why is this easier to talk about than to live out? Can you think of a situation where you have struggled to submit to the authority of God’s Word?
6. *The conclusions will not please everyone.* How is it possible that Pastor Todd’s messages in this series will trouble both those who affirm same-sex attraction/activity and those who do not? Why is this OK? Look up Ephesians 5:10 and Colossians 1:10 for insight into whom we should be seeking to please above anyone else.
7. *The time for weeping is not yet.* Why was it the time for weeping in Jeremiah’s day? Why is it not yet the time for weeping in our day? How does 2 Timothy 4:3 speak to this issue?

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