

# Ministry To LGBTQ Teens

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\_\_\_\_\_ % of LGBT youth say they are happy, compared to 67% of non-LGBT youth.

\_\_\_\_\_ of LGBT youth say they have no adult they can talk to about personal problems.

\_\_\_\_\_ % of LGBT youth have used alcohol and drugs, compared to 22% of non-LGBT youth.

18% of LGBT youth have experienced verbal harassment and \_\_\_\_\_ % physical assault.

\_\_\_\_\_ % of LGBT youth attend church, compared to 58% of non-LGBT youth.

\_\_\_\_\_ % don't feel accepted at their church.

\_\_\_\_\_ % of Americans have a close friend or family member who is gay.

**Brainstorm:** What are situations or scenarios you have experienced and/or don't know how to address?

## Terms:

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual: refers to being \_\_\_\_\_ and physically attracted to people in non-conforming ways.

Same-Sex Attraction: refers to those feelings \_\_\_\_\_ one acts on them.

Gender Identity: a person's \_\_\_\_\_ experience and perception of their gender.

Transgender: identifying with a gender that is \_\_\_\_\_ from the one assigned at birth.

Cisgender: identifying with the gender \_\_\_\_\_ at birth.

Binary, non-Binary: referring to systems and attitudes that classify gender as only male and female, or not.

Questioning: a person with uncertainty about their gender identity and/or sexual orientation.

### **View 1: Imago Dei.**

Many people struggle to reconcile their \_\_\_\_\_ position with their \_\_\_\_\_ experience.

Show an interest in all aspects of a young person's life, not just their \_\_\_\_\_ and struggles.

Be \_\_\_\_\_ for your LGBTQ teens as a support and \_\_\_\_\_.

### **View 2: Unity.**

When we are having the 'LGBTQ conversation,' we are talking about real \_\_\_\_\_.

Young people are typically far more \_\_\_\_\_ in their belief and practice than the general church population.

The primary concern is helping youth understand that their sole \_\_\_\_\_ comes from being an image bearer and beloved child of God.

### **View 3: Affirming.**

LGBTQ people want the opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ fully, without the church imposing an agenda on changing "who it is God has created them to be."

Until our \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_ and can truly feel those statistics about LGBTQ people, in terms of people that are loved by God, then nothing will change.

### **View 4: Transformation and Belonging.**

Transformation is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, no matter what has defined a person's past.

The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are the primary (preferred) contexts for transformation.

The church and home should be the \_\_\_\_\_ place to talk about LGBTQ issues.

### **Some Practical Suggestions.**

Be \_\_\_\_\_.

Be willing to \_\_\_\_\_. Ask good questions.

Be open, regardless of \_\_\_\_\_ differences or \_\_\_\_\_.

Be \_\_\_\_\_-focused.

Be un-\_\_\_\_\_.