

THINKING ABOUT SIN

God, Gender, and Sexuality

How can we tell right from wrong?

- Human view
 - It doesn't hurt anybody.
 - What two people do in the privacy of their own home is no business of mine.
 - As long as consenting
- God's view

How do we know if something is sin?

If God says it is sin

1 Corinthians 5:10-11 not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. ¹¹ But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a [Christian] brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. NIV

Galatians 5:19-21 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. NIV

1 Peter 4:3 For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do — living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. NIV

If it violates our conscience

Romans 2:15 They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them. NIV

Romans 14:23 But if you have doubts about whether or not you should eat something, you are sinning if you go ahead and do it. For you are not following your convictions. If you do anything you believe is not right, you are sinning. NLT

1 Corinthians 4:4 My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. NIV

If it is illegal

Romans 13:1 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. NIV