



# Developing a Christian Worldview

Learning to live, think,  
and act as citizens of the  
Kingdom of God.

**Please mute yourself  
upon joining the Zoom.**

*Thanks! We'll get started in just a few minutes...*



# City University

Developing a Christian Worldview

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Week 03:  
Postmodernism and Truth, Part I  
*Kingdom Sexual Ethics*

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>21 FEB</b> <b>Jesus, The Radical</b> <i>9 &amp; 11 AM</i> <i>In-person &amp; Online</i>	22	23	<b>24</b> <b>Week 01</b> <i>The Story of God, Pt 1</i>	25	26	27
<b>28</b> <b>Jesus, The Radical</b> <i>9 &amp; 11 AM</i> <i>In-person &amp; Online</i>	1 MAR	02	<b>03</b> <b>Week 02</b> <i>The Story of God, Pt 2</i>	04	05	06
<b>07</b> <b>Jesus, The Radical</b> <i>9 &amp; 11 AM</i> <i>In-person &amp; Online</i>	08	09	<b>10</b> <b>Week 03</b> <i>Postmodernism &amp; Truth</i> <i>Kingdom Sexual Ethics</i>	11	12	13
<b>14</b> <b>Jesus, The Radical</b> <i>9 &amp; 11 AM</i> <i>In-person &amp; Online</i>	15	16	<b>17</b> <b>Week 04</b> <i>Postmodernism &amp; Truth</i>	18	19	20
<b>21</b> <b>Jesus, The Radical</b> <i>9 &amp; 11 AM</i> <i>In-person &amp; Online</i>	22	23	<b>24</b> <b>Week 05</b> <i>Modern Heresies</i>	25	26	27

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>28</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> <i>9 &amp; 11 AM</i> <i>In-person &amp; Online</i>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>Week 06</b> <i>Kingdom People &amp; Politics</i>	<b>01 APR</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>03</b>
<b>04</b> <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> <i>9 &amp; 11 AM</i> <i>In-person &amp; Online</i>	<b>05</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>01 MAY</b>



## **Before We Dive In**

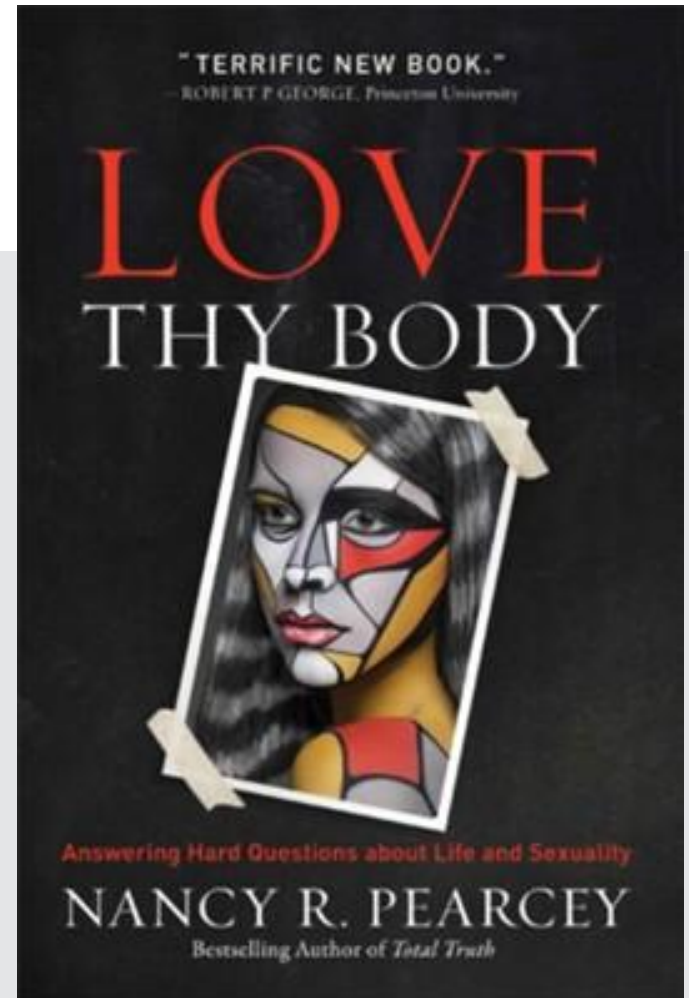
Some Reading Recommendations



READING RECOMMENDATION

# Love Thy Body

By Nancy Pearcey

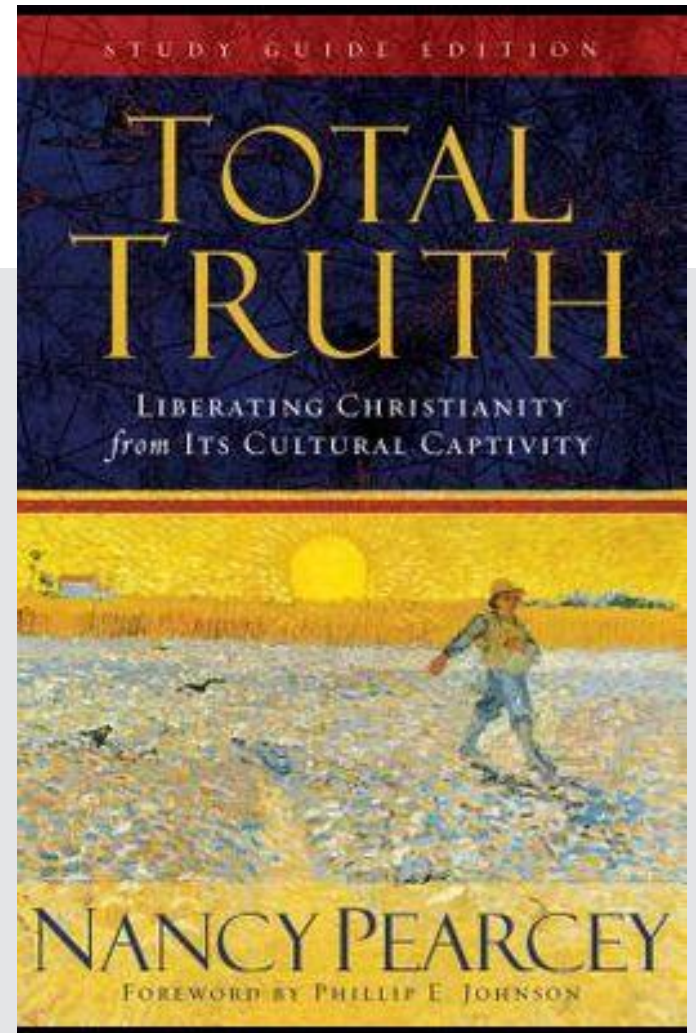




READING RECOMMENDATION

# Total Truth

By Nancy Pearcey

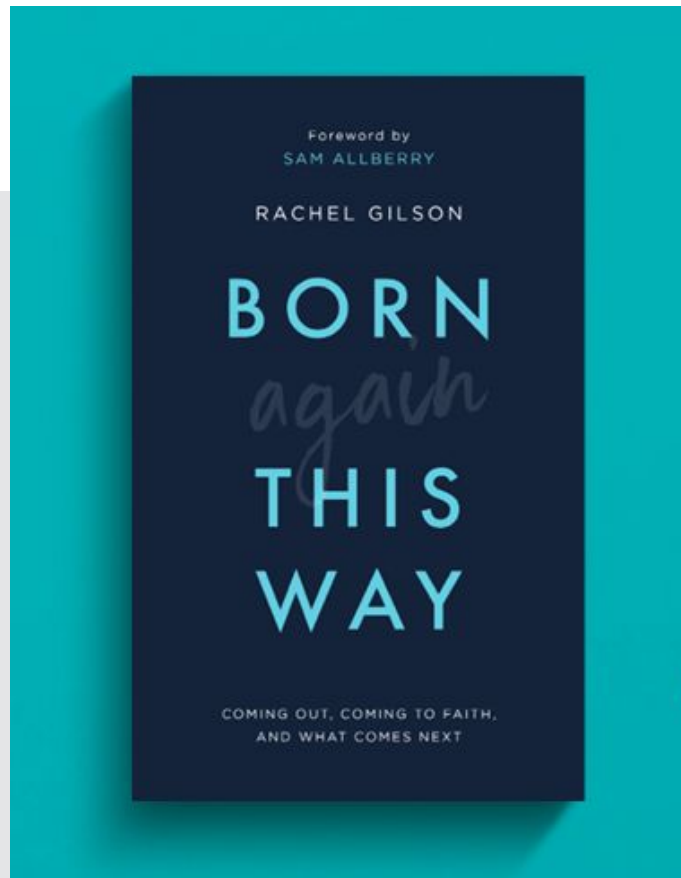




READING RECOMMENDATION

# Born Again This Way

By Rachel Gilson







READING RECOMMENDATION

# The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self

By Carl Trueman





# 01 **A Biblical Framework for Sex**

Probably Not What You Were Taught



01 \_ A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK FOR SEX

# Sex is not a result of the fall but **a part of God's creation.**

\_ Sexual perversion is a result of the fall

\_ For years, during the holiness movement of the 1980s & 90s, God's design for sex was pushed into the background and sex was associated with shame, guilt, condemnation, etc.



01 \_ A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK FOR SEX



**We must a reclaim a biblical sexual ethic that does not lean towards license or legalism.**



01 \_ A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK FOR SEX

**Sex was designed for a man and woman, within the covenant of marriage for several purposes.**

- \_ Mutual pleasure
- \_ The oneness of the covenant of marriage
- \_ Procreation



01 \_ A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK FOR SEX

# Intimate Relationships

Required

In order to Thrive

# Sexual Intimacy

Not Required

In order to Thrive



01 \_ A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK FOR SEX



**Over the past several years, the secular understanding of sexuality and the biblical definition of sexuality have grown increasingly polarizing.**



## 01 \_ A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK FOR SEX



**The early church was strikingly different from the culture around it in this way – the pagan society was stingy with its money and promiscuous with its body. A pagan gave nobody their money and practically gave everybody their body. And **the Christians came along and gave practically nobody their body and they gave practically everybody their money.****

Tim Keller





# 02 **Theology of the Body**

Christian Worldview \_ Personhood Theory



02 \_ THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

# The biblical view of sexuality is not anti-sex, **it is pro-body.**

- \_ Your body has the dignity of being a member of the body of Christ
- \_ If you find yourself with a passionate attraction to someone channel your sexual energy into marriage but don't assume that you have to marry



# The Body

A Christian Worldview



02 \_ THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

# **The body and soul form an integrated unit; human beings are embodied souls.**

- \_ Sexuality is integrated into the whole person.
- \_ The Bible proclaims the profound value and dignity of the material realm – including the human body – as the handiwork of God.



## 02 \_ THEOLOGY OF THE BODY



**Your body has worth because you were created in the image of God for a specific purpose. Also, it is not only your soul that will be restored but you will experience a physical resurrection and restoration in eternity.**



02 \_ THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

# **Sexuality is integrated into the whole person.**

The Bible proclaims the profound value and dignity of the material realm - including the human body - as the handiwork of God



## 02 \_ THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

# Let's Talk About **Gnosticism.**

It's an outwork of Platonism that treated creation as a kind of fall of the soul and from the higher spiritual realm into the corrupt material realm. The goal of salvation, according to gnosticism, was **to escape the physical/material world and ascend back to the spiritual realm.** The incarnation stands in stark contrast to this idea.



02 \_ THEOLOGY OF THE BODY



**The Bible teaches an astonishingly high view of the material world.**





# Personhood

Theory



## 02 \_ THEOLOGY OF THE BODY



**To be biologically human is a scientific fact but to be a person is an ethical concept, defined by what we value. Personhood theory sets the body against the person, making the body inferior to the actual person.**



## 02 \_ THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

# Personhood Theory & Current Culture

**Abortion** According to personhood theory, a fetus can be killed without moral consequence because it has not earned the subjective level of “personhood.” A person, society, or the mother can elevate their wants & desires above the body of an unborn child.



## 02 \_ THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

# Personhood Theory & Current Culture

**Transgender** Although there are some individuals born with gender dysphoria or intersex, personhood theory has led our culture to believe a person's convictions/desires can override their biological reality. In other words, gender is completely disconnected from the body and actually something to be liberated from.



*Upper Category*

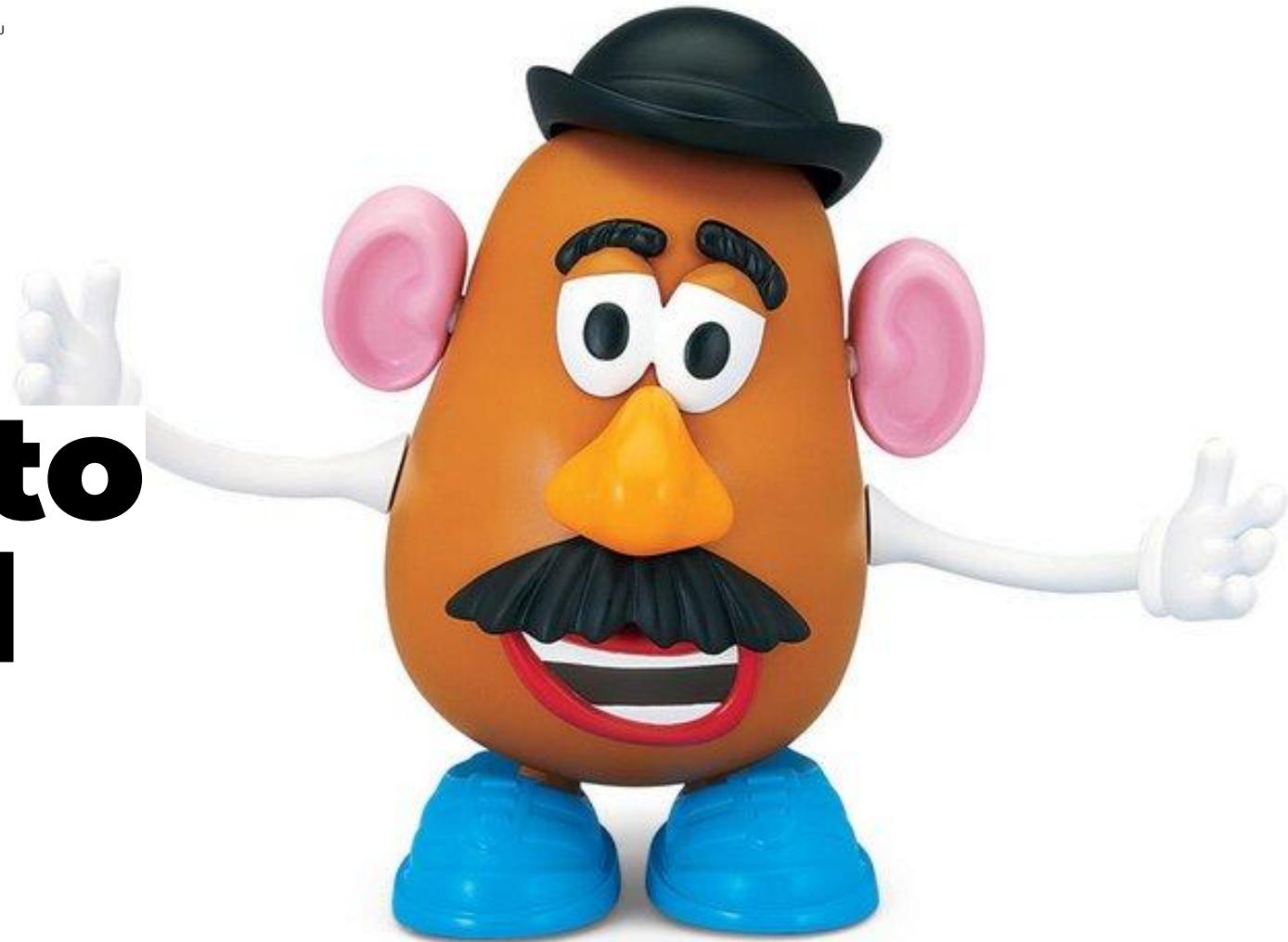
**The Mind**

*Lower Category*

**The Body**



# Mr. Potato Head





# 03 **Hookup Culture**

Stop the Swipe



*Upper Category*

# Pleasure

*Lower Category*

# Biology





*Upper Category*

**Personal**

*Lower Category*

**Physical**



03 \_ HOOKUP CULTURE

**Casual sex relies on a drastic divide between physical intimacy and emotional intimacy.**

- \_ It encourages the division of the wholistic person
- \_ It devalues the body
- \_ It drains relationships of their moral and emotional depth



03 \_ HOOKUP CULTURE

**God designed the human heart to crave a place where it can be fully known and fully loved.**

\_ This requires vulnerability, time, trust, etc.

\_ Our imago dei means we crave relational intimacy because we are designed in the image of The Trinity



03 \_ HOOKUP CULTURE



**Sex is God’s appointed way for two people to say reciprocally to one another, “I belong completely, permanently, and exclusively to you.”**

Tim Keller



# 04 **Homosexuality**

Let's Have Some Grace



READING RECOMMENDATION

# Born Again This Way

By Rachel Gilson





# Question

How do we define our identity?



04 \_ HOMOSEXUALITY



**Our feelings are important but they don't define our identity and are not a reliable guide to God's purposes.**





# Key Question

~~How do we define our identity?~~

From what/whom do we derive our primary identity?



## 04 \_ HOMOSEXUALITY

**Same-sex practices entails the postmodern view that our identity is defined by our feelings and desires.**

This postmodern view says we may use our bodies in ways that contradict our biological structure.



04 \_ HOMOSEXUALITY



**The opposite of homosexuality is not  
heterosexuality, the opposite of  
homosexuality is holiness.**



## 04 \_ HOMOSEXUALITY

# **In the ancient world, no sexual activity was considered immoral.**

So the early church had to muster the courage to stand against a culture in which there were few limits on sexual behavior. The church has always been willing to challenge prevailing cultural norms if necessary.



04 \_ HOMOSEXUALITY

# **Creation mandate (Gen 2) and the theological thread that runs throughout scripture.**

- \_ The historically held position of the church for almost 2,000 years.
- \_ Discipleship to Jesus, living in light of the cross of Christ, and submitting all our desires to Christ in surrender and obedience to Him.



**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

# **The Homosexuality Debate**

PDF

## **Pink Elephants Sermon**

10 March 2013



04 \_ HOMOSEXUALITY

# Justice? Or Morality?

- \_ Affirming vs. Non-affirming; Historic vs. Progressive
- \_ The cultural narrative desensitizes Americans to gay relationships, jams up opposition, and converts popular opinion
- \_ Through psychology (disorder), law (rights/legal), and sin (changing the church's historical perspective)



04 \_ HOMOSEXUALITY

# Justice? Or Morality?

\_ Many conservative evangelicals have responded by using damaging techniques such as conversion therapy, ostracizing those who are gay, and failing to create safe, relational places for gay people to be loved and experience biblical community.





# 05 **Tough Questions**

Five Big Ones



# 01 Question

Can someone be a Christ-follower and gay?



# 02 Question

If “Love is Love,” and we agree people are born gay... how is the struggle for gay rights any different from the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s?



# 03 Question

What does the Bible *actually* say about masturbation?



# 04 **Question**

How should the Church handle sexual failure within our community? What about Christian leaders?



# 05 Question

If we hold a historical/biblical view of homosexuality, how can we (the church) provide a better way forward for our brothers/sisters with same-sex attraction?



# 06 **Other Questions?**

Nothing's Off Limits



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**CITY CHURCH TULSA**  
**City University**  
**2021 Spring Classes**