

I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek **PODCAST**

Love Shamed: 5 Big Lies LGBTQ+ Uses to Silence Christians with Dr. Bobby Conway

(August 13, 2024)

FRANK:

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist with me, Frank Turek. It's a difficult topic for many people to talk about, for many people to interact with others on. And that is the issue of sexuality in today's culture, particularly the LGBTQ issue.

We've talked about it several times on this program, but we have a pastor with us that has actually engaged with people and helped them move from a life of sin to a life of forgiveness. And his name is the great Dr. Bobby Conway, ladies and gentlemen, all the way from Huntersville, North Carolina.

We're right now sitting in Charlotte, North Carolina, at the Cross Examined Instructor Academy. We have so many great instructors here. Bobby's one of them that we're recording podcasts. Bobby, you started the One Minute Apologist. Whatever happened to One Minute Apologist? Is it still on YouTube or where is it?

BOBBY:

I know. In a lot of ways, I was kind of the OG on YouTube in the apologetic world, and we started this many years ago. It was in 2009, and really had no clue what YouTube was. I had a tech friend. He said, hey, you want to throw some videos up on YouTube? And we started doing that, and it was really taking.

But we knew nothing, Frank, about algorithms and the stuff that you guys know and some of these young stud and studettes that are coming on the apologetic scene. And so, you know, what happened for me is I got off the record for a little bit, and that threw me out of the algorithm. And by the time I started trying to get back onto this thing, it was like, wow, the whole world had changed.

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So, I had a lot of fun doing it. And we put a lot of video content out. We did a rebranding but kept the channel, and we call the channel 'Christianity Still Makes Sense' because, you know, my story of a person going through a lot of doubts to come out the other side and write about it.

So, we still have that. But I'll tell you, it can be exhausting to do this when you're putting together 45-48 sermons a year and then trying to produce this kind of content. But at the same token, I'm so passionate about apologetics as a pastor in the local church in particular.

FRANK:

So, Image Church, you started that when?

BOBBY:

Almost four years ago now. Yeah.

FRANK:

And right here, just north of Charlotte. And you still have all those One Minute Apologist videos?

BOBBY:

Absolutely. Yeah.

FRANK:

People can access them where?

BOBBY:

You just go to Christianity Still Makes Sense YouTube. And so, we have almost 2000 videos there. We have a podcast called 'Christianity Still Makes Sense'. Right now, what's being published mostly is just my weekly sermons, and then they'll take shorts from that and stuff like that.

But, you know, we haven't been doing as much of the standard apologetic Q&A stuff as we once were because, literally, we've answered so many of those main questions and had some

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of the world leading apologists, like yourself on the channel that right now, I feel like my heartbeat is helping pastors and churches to realize the need for apologetics, because I think that, you know how it is.

You get a lot of people. They do apologetics, but how do we get it in the local church? And we need pastors to support apologists to do this.

FRANK:

Now, the presentation you just did today here at the CrossExamined Instructor Academy is titled Love Shamed, Confronting 10 Lies LGBTQ+ uses to silence Christians. I don't think we'll get through all 10 here today. But before we get into those lies, you had a situation locally with a neighbor. Tell us that situation and what happened.

BOBBY:

I did. You know, I would say it's probably a good place to start just because I feel like it is important that we're connected to people that are differing in their worldview. And in particular, the LGBTQ community is very much a growing community, and it's celebrated by, you know, believers as well, unfortunately, and in the culture. And we need to be able to figure out how to connect with them.

And so, even today, you know, I think about going to Starbucks. That's kind of my ministry. I hang out there and, you know, some of the baristas that I know, and just building a friendship with them. And they know that I'm a pastor, but we connect. And I think that's so important that we build relationship, so we don't just start with defending the faith when we just walk up to somebody that is in that context.

But, yeah, you know, we had a neighbor many years ago, and in my book, 'The Fifth Gospel', I refer to him as Trent, but that's not his actual name. But Trent was living with a guy, and he comes knocking on my door one day and says, man, I've been reading to Larry at night the Gospel of John. And while we lay in bed, we just kind of read a few chapters.

And I said, that's great. I said, I'm happy for you. It would have been better if you're not laying in bed next to each other. But you know, it's a start, right? You got the Gospel of John. You're

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reading that. And so, I felt like this is cool, you know? It seems like something's happening in his heart. And the open door, Frank, for me to get a relationship with Trent was this. I was in a coffee shop one day, and, you know, we started talking.

I said, you know, one of the problems sometimes with Christians is they want people to agree with them before they accept them. And that can work the opposite direction as well. But I said, you know, I think that Jesus knew how to navigate accepting people even if He didn't agree with them. And so, I think that we can, you know, love people and we can connect with people, and we don't always have to agree. And that opened up a door for him to tell me his story.

And his story is one where, you know, he was homosexually raped at eight years of age several times. At 15 years of age, his father let him be raped at a truck stop in the 18 wheeler rig that his father drove. And he didn't even intervene, just let him be raped. And so, he was living with a man on our street. And so, I was, you know, connecting with him whenever I could. And then he knocked on the door, said, I'm reading John. I thought, that's great.

On another occasion, he said, you know, Bobby, I've been watching you out in the neighborhood. I see you with your kids. I really, you know, I like what I see. And I'm like, well, you know, don't be too impressed. You see me behind the doors, you know, I can lose my stuff as well. I don't have it all together. And, you know, probably chuckled about that. But then on another occasion, he knocked on the door and he said, I'm moving out and I'm giving my life to Jesus. I'm going all in.

And I thought, wow. He literally moved out. And I said, can I share your story with the church? And he said, absolutely. And he wrote out a beautiful, long testimony about a story and things for us to be aware of. And I just read that to the church, and it was so powerful. And I didn't see him for a long time after that.

And one day, my wife and I were having lunch in Longhorn Steakhouse up there in Huntersville, and he walks in, and I said to him, whoa! It's you, right? And he was with his wife and newborn baby child. And I thought, that is pretty cool. You don't get to hear that a lot, but that was so meaningful just to see that, you know what, God can work in people's lives.

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And I recognize that's not the story for everybody, but it was his story. And for him, he really believed that the Holy Spirit transformed him. And that's his, you know, his greatest apologetic would be, you know what? Until the Holy Spirit shows up in our life and gets ahold of us, you can give all the arguments you want, but the Holy Spirit changed me.

FRANK:

You know, I want to go back to something you said about that you're willing to accept people before they agree with you. And when you say accept, you mean that they're individuals made in the image of God.

BOBBY:

That's right.

FRANK:

And that even though they may be behaving in a way you don't agree with or a way God says is wrong, they're still made in the image of God. You know, it's like we almost fall into the trap that people in that community present to us when they say, this is our identity. We're born this way. Whatever our main identity is, we're LGBTQ, whatever it is.

And we fall into the trap of almost agreeing with them by saying, well, the only thing about you that I know about is that you're LGBTQ rather than you're a human being made in the image of God. And that's one aspect of your behavior, but that's not who you are. In fact, that's one of the so-called lies that you presented here, Bobby. Talk about that lie, that identity is in what you prefer to do sexually. Why is that a lie?

BOBBY:

One of the dangers that I think that comes out of the LGBTQ movement, Frank, it's reductionistic. It's reducing one's identity down to their sexual preferences. And so, the reason it's so important for somebody that's a part of that community, for them to feel like we can, you know, celebrate what's going on in his or her life is because that's their identity, because they've reduced their identity down to their sexual preferences.

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And what we can show as Christians that your identity is so much bigger than your sexual preferences. Sexual identity is just one part of it, of your identity, and we have a much bigger identity to offer the world. And you've been gypped. You've been gypped to believe that, guess what? My identity is reduced down to my sexual preferences.

Well, if that's the case, guess what? Then you have to celebrate me. But guess what? We don't have to do that with Muslims. Like, why is it that I don't have to celebrate Islam to show a Muslim that, you know, I care about him, or I love this individual. But unfortunately, when it's that restrictive as an identity, this is what you end up with.

So, we want to step back and say, yes, our sexual preferences, you know, we need to look at that, and we want those to be properly aimed the way God made us. But we need to realize sexuality is so minuscule in compared to who we are as an individual. And if you buy into this identity, then you're going to become sexually obsessed. And we live in a sexually obsessed culture, and you're going to start denying marriage.

You're going to start... I mean, because here's what's happening. We are a culture that's genitally obsessed. We're obsessed with our genitals. I mean, frankly, it's sex-obsessed. And now, what's happening in our culture today, people don't even think, you know, that they can be married. So, forget marriage. Polyamory. Well, why is that?

Well, no sense on trying to keep the moral standard, because we're so highly sexualized that we're impulsive. We can't maintain sexual self-control. And so, I think that that is something that we need to really show people, that there's a lot of consequences that come with believing that your identity's rooted in your sexual preferences.

FRANK:

Also, if it's rooted in your sexual preferences, what happens when you're no longer able to sexually perform? You no longer have an identity? Or you're no longer sexually preferred, or your preferences change? I mean, that's a very fragile identity to go by.

BOBBY:

Absolutely.

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FRANK:

To have desires, and those desires are what defines you as a person. That just seems very shallow and, as you say, very reductionistic. It's not a stable identity. It's a fragile identity. In reality, if Christianity is true, and we, of course, give evidence it is, there's only two identities. You're either saved or you're unsaved. You're either a child of God or you're not. It's one of those two.

I think it's also important to recognize that when people who are in such a community pressure you to accept the behavior and say it's not sin, or there are people, supposedly Christians, who are trying to say that same-sex relationships are not sin. You could almost say this. Why don't we put that issue aside for just a second? And let's just say for the sake of argument, it's not true. But for the sake of argument, you're right, it's not sin. You still need a Savior.

You've sinned elsewhere. Even if what you're saying is true, you've lied, you've stolen, you've lusted, you've done a million other sins. So, how does it help you to say same-sex behavior isn't a sin when you still don't have a savior for your other sins? It seems that they think if we can just convince the church that sexual behavior, the sexual behavior we're engaged in is not a sin, that somehow, we're Scott free. No, you're not.

You still have other things that need to be punished if there is a standard of justice. And God is that standard of justice. How about the lie about being born that way? You know, we don't often hear that much anymore because of the transgender movement, perhaps. You know, they used to say, hey, we're born this way. Now, they say that you can go to bed as a man and wake up as a woman. So, is that argument still an argument? And if it is, what's the answer to it?

BOBBY:

You know, and it's interesting, too, because you think about the whole idea of going through, like, a sex change, for example. You know, like, well, if there's no difference between, you know, a man and a woman, then why bother going through the sex change?

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FRANK:

That's right.

BOBBY:

Like, just identify. But there's something that you feel like I need to make what my insides feel like correspond to my body. So, I'm going to mutilate my body so it can feel like my inside, so that I can pose this way. Well, why go through that if there's no such thing as the difference between a man and a woman?

Well, I mean, I think that even in the brokenness of that, you can see the truth of distinction, that it's there even when you try to falsely arrive at it. I would say, when we do think about being born this way, I mean, there's no scientific data that can back it. There's been different stuff that's been done, like the famous Twin Study.

FRANK:

What did they find in the Twin Study? What is the Twin Study?

BOBBY:

Well, it was just looking at basic twins and then seeing--

FRANK:

Identical twins.

BOBBY:

Identical twins.

FRANK:

Same genetics.

BOBBY:

Exactly. And seeing how it shakes out. And then what you find out, you know, that, okay, there's a larger percentage of these babies that are going to end up with same-sex relations. But even the study, though, it had room for biases. It was done by a person that was gay. And

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when you started looking at the data, it didn't seem like the research was well founded. So, it's been largely dismissed.

FRANK:

So, you had people with the same genome arriving at different sexual orientations.

BOBBY:

And if you're born this way, you're going to automatically, it would seem like, be that. Now, I will say, it is interesting. I mean, I'm sure you have too, where you see somebody that's really young, three, four, and you might think, boy. This person's really effeminate. And you're wondering, is this person going to turn out? But I don't know exactly where the sexual preferences come on the scene. Like, I mean, I know for me, when I was four years old, I mean, I was drawn to girls, right? I got in trouble in preschool for kissing a girl going down the slide.

FRANK:

At four years old? [Laughter]

BOBBY:

At four years old, man. Yeah. So, I mean, it was like, you know, so. But for some people, they're like, oh, I never even got interested in girls.

FRANK:

Until I was like eleven or twelve or twelve. Right.

BOBBY:

So, it seems like it falls on us at some point. But I don't think we can say that there is evidence scientifically for, like, a gay gene. There isn't. But even if there was, it doesn't change the fact of what the Bible says. Like, you know, Frank, I'm a recovering alcoholic. You know, there's genetic connections to alcoholism. That doesn't give me a right to go just be a drunkard.

I still have to, you know, submit the genetic base that I have to Scripture. And my genetics are broken, and all of us have broken genetics. So, for me, if it was shown that way, it would just be

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a part of the fallen world that we live in. So, the case is kind of a moot point. It doesn't matter to me that much.

FRANK:

We're all born with an orientation toward bad behavior.

BOBBY:

Yes.

FRANK:

Gravity. In fact, Mike Adams used to say this. You know, that if somebody got upset with his position on this issue, they would call him a homophobe or whatever. He'd say, hey, don't blame me. I just have the anti-gay gene, right? What could they say to that, right? No, genetics does not dictate whether or not something is moral or immoral. Unfortunately, there are people in the pedophilia world who are now, they're calling themselves minor attracted persons. And their argument is, well, we're just born this way.

So, we're predisposed to do it. In fact, when I wrote the first edition of 'Correct, Not Politically Correct', I got an email from a guy who was undercover. He was an FBI agent undercover with NAMBLA. Remember NAMBLA? North American Man Boy Love Association, the pedophiles. And he said, Frank, I'm undercover with these people, and you know what their justification is for what they're doing? We were born this way. Right? Attractions do not justify actions. There has to be a real moral justification for the action.

BOBBY:

Yeah, you're born this way. But what about the kid that wasn't born to want that action to happen upon him or her? Right? So, is it just about what you want? Right? Well, what about other desires?

FRANK:

Yeah. What are some of the other lies that you think are imposed on us or they're told to us on this LGBTQ issue?

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BOBBY:

My emotions are all that I need to validate my experience.

FRANK:

I've got to follow my heart.

BOBBY:

Yeah, I've got to follow my heart. You know, if Descartes said, I think, therefore I am, Rousseau, I feel, therefore I am. And so, you end up in a culture today where a lot of people, they're not concerned about proper thinking. It's following the way they feel. But the problem with that is it's very fluid as an identity. And they know that. I mean, they'll talk about the fluidity of my sexuality, but that is so toxic even to, like, the young kids. I think about the identity issues that is happening right now as a result of some of the pronoun craze that we're up against, Frank.

I mean, the list is growing well over 100 different pronouns. When you and I were kids, you know, it was hard enough to just lean into an identity as male and female. But now you just picture kids, you know, working through their, you know, dictionary of pronouns, trying to figure out which one they resonate with. And by the time they settle on one, there's a whole new set to go through to see if that squares with their interpretive emotional experience.

FRANK:

Right. And their feelings have changed by then because kids go through phases.

BOBBY:

Exactly.

FRANK:

So, it's very... It's really ridiculous, when you think about it, that you're going to sterilize a child who's in a phase right now, probably brought on by social media, and not realize that, that so-called rapid onset gender dysphoria is going to pass with time just by going through puberty.

There are states now that are forcing these children to be transitioned, to have hormone blockers, and cross sex hormones, and maybe even surgery in some cases. How crazy is that

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when this problem's going to fix itself anyway, just with the passage of time? Eighty percent of the kids that have this, by the time they hit 18, they're past it. They're back to their biological sex, and 96% are back to their biological sex by the time they're 26.

BOBBY:

Yeah. And you think about the mental health crisis that we're in. I mean, what is it like out of the UK, a study that showed, like, with teenage girls, a 4000% increase in gender dysphoria confusion or something like that? I mean, it was just drastic. Well, what is that? Is that actual science that's doing that or are they being mass marketed to believe this?

And unfortunately, I think that there is a lot of mental health, and I think it's unloving for us to stay silent. And this is the irony of it. Even, like, with the talk that I gave earlier about being love-shamed. Satan has masterfully used the Gospel against us.

FRANK:

What do you mean by that?

BOBBY:

Well, here's the thing. We're called to go and love the world, and that's supposed to be the greatest tool and the greatest asset that we have, that we get to go and love the world. But now the message has been packaged like we're unloving if we don't celebrate the party of LGBTQ. And so, we're perceived as unloving. And so, now you have people, if they're not biblically trained, what they start feeling is, well, golly, I know I'm supposed to love you.

And I guess if I'll celebrate you then, and I'll affirm this, because I want you to feel loved. And we're believing a lie. And what's happening is we're having to get into conversations that aren't even about the real story. I've been a Christian for over 30 years. I cannot think of a single Christian in all my time being Christian that would say, well, man, we just, we need to be unloving to the homosexual community.

If anything, and I'm not saying there hasn't been Fred Phelps types. But if anything, Christians bend over backwards to show that they're loved to the point that some will compromise the truth and fail to love people with the truth of God's Word because they don't want to offend.

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Because the narrative... It's like anytime we get in a conversation, anytime we talk about this, it's like we have to exhaustively say, now, I'm not trying to be unloving. I'm not trying to be unloving, because people have been programmed to think, if you don't celebrate, you're unloving. But the fact of the matter is, that's not true.

Like, would the Muslims say, I'm unloving because I believe that Jesus is the Son of God, you know? The second person of the Trinity. You don't have to defend that in any other area. Right? But when it comes to, like, a Buddhist or a Hindu, the Hindu wouldn't say, oh, you know what? You're unloving because you won't celebrate Hinduism or you're unloving because you believe Jesus is the only way. But when it comes to this area, this is the narrative that's so pushed upon us, but it cuts right at the heart of it.

And you think about, like, the parade at the Olympics that went down. I mean, you have the symbol of the Antichrist riding in on a white horse with a crown. You have the God of the ancient God of Dionysus, of orgies and drunkenness that's being celebrated. I mean, I think all the stuff in the culture is so highly sexualized, Frank. And then in the name of we're not loving unless we jump in and celebrate this. It's just an unfair narrative.

FRANK:

Well, nobody ever defines what love means. Love does not mean approval.

BOBBY:

Exactly.

FRANK:

As Paul says in 1 Corinthians 13, that love always protects, that love does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but love rejoices in the truth. And love always perseveres. Love doesn't mean approval. The folks who are saying, if you love me, you'd approve of me, are the same people who won't approve of you. Right?

BOBBY:

That's right. Yeah, exactly.

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FRANK:

Love doesn't mean approval. Love means seeking what's best in God's sight for the other person. And if we're going to love people, we can't approve of the sin that they want to commit. We can't approve of it because it's not loving to them. It's not helping them. We're enabling them to stay in their sin and maybe to stay eternally separated from God. That's not loving. So, I think we need to be really clear as to what love is if we're going to be effective with people and say, I couldn't hate you more by hiding the truth. Especially if it has eternal consequences. And we know it does.

BOBBY:

Yeah. I mean, and what's going on in California, for instance, what the Newsom's done? I mean, this is absurd. I mean, you're going to hide stuff from parents and, I mean, what? And give the authority over to teachers and everybody else?

FRANK:

I mean, Brett Kunkle and I spoke about this last week that it seems like California believes that all parents are automatically guilty if one parent mistreats some kid who has gender dysphoria. So, now the parents of these kids, the parent is the state now. The true parents have no rights, according to the state of California on this issue. Just goes to show you how distorted bad thinking on sexuality causes people to do what are literally evil things.

And I think this is all based in Romans 1. Paul says, when we suppress the truth in unrighteousness, particularly on the sexual issues, we're given over to a futile mind and then ultimately a depraved mind, to the point where we're not only doing evil, we're cheering on other people who are doing evil. And that's what's going on.

BOBBY:

It is.

FRANK:

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil. That's what's happening.

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BOBBY:

I mean, I think back to... I mean, I went to high school in northern California, an hour south of San Francisco. Graduated in '91.

FRANK:

What high school? Where'd you go?

BOBBY:

It was Morgan Hill.

FRANK:

Oh, Morgan Hill. I know where it is. Yeah, I'll be out in Gilroy. Well, I just was out in Gilroy by the time this plays.

BOBBY:

I'll be out there on Saturday, speaking at the church on Sunday that you were just at.

FRANK:

All right. All right.

BOBBY:

But, yeah, when I graduated from high school, I think back, I cannot think of one person in my high school that identified as gay. And I graduated an hour south of San Francisco. Now, does that mean that there weren't gay people in my high school? Not at all.

FRANK:

Had those attractions.

BOBBY:

Yeah, not at all.

FRANK:

It wasn't celebrated.

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BOBBY:

But it wasn't celebrated. Right. And so, it just goes to show how much the culture is changing. And, you know, one of the other lies is if you don't validate me, then we can't normalize this. And that's what I think so much of this is about.

FRANK:

What's the solution to that?

BOBBY:

Well, I mean.

FRANK:

It shouldn't be normalized.

BOBBY:

It shouldn't be normalized. Yeah, that's right. Just because you want to be validated doesn't mean that we have to validate this. What we need to validate is truth. That's what we should be concerned about. I do think, Frank, there's a shift that has to take place in pulpits and in our teaching, where there was a time where the culture shared the values of the Church.

And I talk about a moral trajectory. And you've heard me say it before, but it goes like this. You know, the trajectory morally moves from rejection, to tolerance, to acceptance, to celebration, to rejection. So, you take an issue like the LGBTQ in the culture, there's a time where that was rejected as a lifestyle. Then it was tolerated. Then it was accepted. Now it is celebrated. And if you don't join the party, well, we've gone full circle. You'll be rejected. You're on the wrong side of history.

And so, what I think in our day and age that we're living in is we have to realize that the culture, they look at it differently now. So, if we go out and just meet people with the sin of, you know, homosexuality, let's say. Well, a lot of people don't even think it's a sin because it's legal. So, it must be moral. So, we have to say, well, just because it's legal doesn't mean it's moral.

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We have to make that distinction. But I also think that we have to, maybe when we're sharing the Gospel, like, we're looked at the ones as Christians who need the Gospel. We need the gospel of the LGBT to rescue us from our Victorian morality. We need saving, or we'll get canceled. And so, they're evangelizing us, right? And there's a great evangelistic effort taking place. And we need to realize that when we go out and we chat, that the consequences are still happening in their life.

And that's something that I don't think we get on TV, for example. The TV isn't painting the consequences of the lifestyle of just living highly sexual. So, therefore, instead of just meeting people with sin, I think we could start with, how is this working out for you? Like, if we're in a conversation with somebody that's living this way, talk to us like what this is like and see if there's consequences showing up. But then we have to even establish the why. Why does God care about sexuality?

FRANK:

Why?

BOBBY:

Exactly. So, I would say, like, for those that would say, oh, you know, God's Victorian ethic. It's outdated, you know, we need to go the way of the culture. Well, there would have never been an STD had we followed God's way. Think about that. What if God doesn't want us to have guilt or shame? What if God wants us to have self-control? What if He doesn't want us to mess up the prefrontal cortex of our brain through looking at porn and being obsessed with sexuality where we have no self-control, we're totally impulsive? What if He wants us to be trustworthy?

And so, you think about, like, the ingredients for a marriage just being overly sexualized, giving yourself to, you know, our feelings and living according to our feelings. Well, that's a perfect recipe to be untrustworthy, to be impulsive, and to make decisions that will lead to consequences, shame, regret, and guilt. And God wants to protect us from all of that.

And so, he is a good God, and he's saying, I want you to, like, I know for me, I'm thankful that my wife doesn't want to be acting out on all of her sexual feelings, and I know she doesn't want me acting out on all of my sexual feelings. We need self-control in this world. We need to not

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be impulsive. We need to be trustworthy. And without those ingredients, you're going to lose the family. You're going to lose the marriage. And this is where we are.

We're denying the family. We're denying the need for marriage. But we're still going to have kids. Well, what are we going to raise? Just kids that help them to figure out what pronoun they are is the greatest gift we can give them. Well, there's got to be more to that for a vision for life.

FRANK:

Yeah. Well said. Well said. Let's deal with one other issue on this, and that is this name that they will attach to people. You're homophobic. You're transphobic. You need to affirm us. If you don't affirm us, then we're going to feel like we're doing something wrong. These kinds of things. How do you respond to that?

BOBBY:

I think what happens, Frank, is, unfortunately, the media takes the extremes and feeds us extremes on the news, because they're always looking for a story. Because what's in the middle doesn't sell.

FRANK:

If it bleeds, it reads.

BOBBY:

If it bleeds, it reads. So, what does that mean, then? It means that we're constantly being exposed to the extremes. And so, you're getting the Christian extremes, the LGBT extremes. And I think about, like, a lady that I know that works at Starbucks. She's a friend of mine, but she also happens to be gay. She has a girlfriend who's a real sweetheart. I mean, and I love both of these young ladies. They're just sweet as can be. They love each other.

But I get in conversations, and you know what? She knows that I'm a pastor, and she knows where I stand, but we're able to have a good relationship. In fact, what was funny is here is this lesbian telling me. She's like, yeah, I don't always agree with everything about the LGBT. She says, I think sometimes some of the men are way too flamboyant. I think it's put on.

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And I just thought, that was interesting to hear this from somebody that's not a Christian, that's a part of the LGBTQ community. But I said to her last week when we were talking. I said, you know, isn't it amazing? Here we are, we're just sitting, hanging out, having coffee. You know, we're buds, and this shouldn't be because we're fed the extremes on the news.

We're told that we can't get along because one side says we're totally homophobic. The other side, you know, just says, you know, everybody just wants drag shows or whatever. And I said, and in between, there's you and me, that we can actually be friends, and we can understand that there's a difference of opinion on things. And I'm thankful for this young lady, and I'm thankful for the opportunity that I don't have to compromise my beliefs for her. And that's what I even said.

I said, you know, when we're building this relationship, I said, it's tough. I said, I can validate that. I can't imagine what it would be like to have same-sex attraction. And I said, if somebody told me that normal was homosexual, and as heterosexual, that wasn't the normal, and you've got to change your sexual appetite, it would seem impossible to me. I would feel like that can't happen.

And so, I said, I can't imagine what that would feel like, you know? And I could imagine wanting to make that feel normal, and okay, and validated. But then that's when I talk about, but for me, as a Christian, I believe our identity is so much bigger than our sexual preferences. And I said, I just feel like I'm in a weird position because, yeah, if it was just left to me, I'd validate you. But as a Christian, I've got to be faithful to my savior.

FRANK:

And you also gave reasons why God wants us to be pure sexually. It's not just arbitrary.

BOBBY:

Yeah, it's not. It's not just arbitrary. But I say I can't compromise my convictions about what I believe, and I don't think we should force that. And I said any more do I think that the church should go and force the Gospel down people's throat. I think we should be able to have an honest talk about what is true and what is right, and we should be able to love each other and

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not coerce each other into our beliefs. And let's let the best arguments win, so to speak. But let's not lose a relationship in the process.

FRANK:

There's a pastor that has counseled many people who have same-sex attraction, and he once said this to me. Now, I don't know if this is true across the board, but in his experience, I've never met a lesbian, he said, who was not sexually abused. Again, I don't know if that's predominant among people who have same-sex attraction, women who have same-sex attraction. But you might understand the psychology of it, right?

I mean, if a young woman has been sexually abused by a stepfather, or uncle, or somebody, or a brother, even. They may say, I don't want to have anything to do with men. Right? You might understand the psychology behind it. I don't know if you'll ever have a private conversation with either of these two ladies in a counseling session, but it might be interesting to see if that is part of their history. Sexual abuse--

BOBBY:

Yeah, that's a good point.

FRANK:

Can really, really interfere with good thinking, and proper desire, and proper feeling. So, you have to have compassion, especially if that's the case. But your goal, of course, and our goal in speaking with people who are not Christians is not to take somebody who is involved in a same-sex relationship and get them involved in an opposite-sex relationship. Our goal is to make them holy and show them that Jesus is the savior, and he can purify them of all their sins, not just any sexual sin, but any sin.

BOBBY:

Absolutely, Frank. And I think that for those that are out there, that they're not apologists like us or teachers, and they're wondering, like, what do I do? And I would say that just try to build a relationship with people. You know? I purposely go to Starbucks all the time, and I sit in there, and that's my mission field. And several people... Just had a barista that's an atheist are coming to our church, and she just got saved.

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Had the manager from Starbucks came to our church last weekend with her husband. I mean, this is stuff that's happening. And I just sit in there and I draw. I do my art, and I listen to podcasts, and I connect with people. And I feel like through connection and through just loving on people, then we can start having conversations.

Like this one lady that's a lesbian. I just took interest in her. She's an artist. And so, I just started asking her all kinds of questions. Let me see your art. And then she started taking up piano and she would go, climbing rocks. And how'd that rock climbing go? And then she would see me drawing. She says, oh, what are you drawing here? And we just connect.

Well, then, you know, eventually, she sits down next to me, and then we start having a conversation, and then I start looking for ways to just talk about, you know, what it is that I believe, and then tell me your story, and we're listening. And then I'm just trying to share all along that, hey, you know what? We can have differences of opinion, but we can still be friends. Trying to let her know that I'm not wanting to be a threat in the sense of a relational threat, but I do love to talk about what is true.

And so, I think that there's a lot more hope for us in conversations from the standpoint that I don't think that everybody in the LGBTQ community is the way that they could get painted by maybe certain people in the church, and neither do I think all Christians are the way that they're painted by people on the news. I think in between, there's lots of conversations that can be had.

FRANK:

Before we give Bobby's website, I want to mention that I'm going to be at the University of Texas at Dallas on September 5. The next night, I'll be with my friend Charlie Kirk and Pastor Robert Furrow at Calvary Chapel of Tucson. That is the 6th of September. Then, Lord willing, on the 9th of September, we'll be at Arizona State there in Phoenix, Arizona. All of these events are on our website, crossexamined.org. Just click on crossexamined.org and look for events. Bobby, how do people get in touch with you and see the work you're doing? Where do they go?

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BOBBY:

They can go to ChristianityStillMakesSense.com.

FRANK:

ChristianityStillMakesSense.com. It does. It's always made sense, ladies and gentlemen. Christianity is built on history, and philosophy, and good common sense. And it's not just a matter of blind faith. In fact, it's not a matter of blind faith at all. It's a matter of understanding that Jesus actually did die and rise from the dead and that if He did that, Christianity is true. If He didn't do it, it's false. And if there is no resurrection, there is no hope. If there is resurrection, if there was a resurrection, then there is hope. Simple as that.

BOBBY:

That's right.

FRANK:

Well, thanks for giving us hope on how to deal with people that may disagree with us, Bobby. And friends, go to Christianity Still Makes Sense on their website. You can also go to their YouTube channel, see many more videos that will help you. All right. Lord willing, we will see you here next week. God bless.

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