



The Evangelical Covenant Church



Show Notes for
Embrace Webinar #1

People to Be Loved: Why Homosexuality Is Not Just an Issue

with Preston Sprinkle

Embrace webinar #1 summary:

Author and founder of The Center for Faith, Sexuality, and Gender, Dr. Preston Sprinkle speaks to the need to love LGBT+ people with theological faithfulness and courageous love. He provides specific examples of what the church has gotten wrong and right in loving sexual minorities well. Full webinar and resources available at <https://covchurch.org/embrace/webinar-1/>

Key takeaways and timestamps from webinar:

(5:30-10:30): Preston tells his life-changing journey of **getting to know LGBT+ people**. Relational proximity humanizes gender and sexuality conversations.

(10:30-15:00): **Why is it so important for the Church to love LGBT+ people?** Because it is one of the most significant ethical questions facing the church, the number of people impacted, the witness of the church, and spiritual hunger of LGBT+ people.

(15:00-22:00): There is a great need for church leaders and parents to be **educated and equipped** in how to love LGBT+ who come out so they do not inflict more trauma, shame, and suicidal ideation.

(22:30-29:00): The Church **does not need to modify its theology from traditional to affirming to truly love LGBT+ people** (see “Us vs. Us” for the research behind this).

(29:00-36:00): Everyone is created in the image of God; at the same time, everyone’s sexuality has been impacted by the fall. **Regardless of our natural orientations or desires**, we are each called to live into the Creator’s design.



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(37:00-40:30): Learning from Jesus who both preached high moral standards and embodied love towards people who fell short of those standards (Matthew 5-9), especially people in marginalized groups.

(40:30-45:00): Practical ways the church has loved LGBT+ people, including: response to Pulse nightclub shootings, outreach to homeless teens, and raising awareness of bullying within schools.

Selected resources mentioned:

[People to Be Loved: Why Homosexuality Is Not Just an Issue](#) by Preston Sprinkle

[The Center for Faith, Sexuality, and Gender: Online Resources](#)

[Us vs. Us: The Untold Story of Religion and the LGBT Community](#) by Andrew Marin