

Speaking the Truth in Love



A 12-Step Comprehensive Prayer and Action Strategy on the LGBTQ+ Issue Created by IFA Massachusetts

As intercessors, let us first approach the topic of the LGBTQ+ issue through Scripture. Then use this guide as a comprehensive prayer strategy for this issue and for the people ensnared in its deception. Ask God to give you His heart as you pray. Make any notes in the margins as the Holy Spirit speaks to you.

*“Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.”
(Ephesians 4:15)*

“Christians need the courage to defend a true vision for human flourishing based on biblical understanding of being made in His image. But all the conviction in the world won’t matter if we act or speak without compassion. Jesus did not aim to win debates. He sought to love people. So must we as His followers. As we ground our convictions in God’s unchanging, perfect Word, we must speak with compassion in our hearts.”

— Andrew Walker, *God and the Transgender Debate*

Praise

Praise our amazing Creator God — Elohim — for making us so perfectly, with bodies and minds and emotions that are so rich and wonderful! You “breathed the breath of life” (see Genesis 2:7) into us, You knew us before we were born, and You knit us together in the womb. You do **not** make mistakes, so we know it is a lie from hell that people told they are “in the wrong body.” Your *way is perfect, the word of the Lord proves true* (Psalm 18:30) so we know that every word You speak and all the things You have done are absolute perfection, righteousness, and truth. May You receive glory, honor, and praise as we pray, obey, and uphold Your truths.

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well” (Psalm 139:13-14 NIV).

“The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life” (Job 33:4).

“Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways!” (Romans 11:33).

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The Truth of the Word of God

Heavenly Father, let the truths of your Word sink deep into our hearts and minds. Like the psalmist may we say "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." (Psalm 119:11).

Give us the strength to declare and stand on these truths, despite persecution, the loss of relationships, and even danger. But Lord, may Your love always shine through us as we speak truth lest we become a *noisy gong or a clanging cymbal* (1 Corinthians 13:1). Give us an assurance that Your word is God-breathed and utter truth, so that we may be resolute in standing upon it. Help us memorize Your scriptures about these difficult topics so that we may be always *prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks* and to *do this with gentleness and respect* (1 Peter 3:15 NIV).

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16).

"But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' Therefore, a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate" (Mark 10:6-9).

Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God (1 Corinthians 6:9-11 NIV).

That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other. And the men instead of having normal sexual relations with women burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved (Romans 1:26-27 NLT).

"A woman must not put on men's clothing and a man must not wear women's clothing. Anyone who does this is detestable in the sight of the LORD your God" (Deuteronomy 22:5 NLT).

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body (1 Corinthians 6:18).

God Cares About Suffering

In all their suffering he also suffered, and he personally rescued them (Isaiah 63:9).

Father, we know that You care deeply about these people who suffer terribly in feeling that they are "in the wrong body." You care too about those who are struggling with same-sex attractions and desires, especially those who were raised in church and who know it is sinful in Your sight. Even as we resolve to speak truth over them, let us have compassion, and let us never deny that these feelings are very real for them. Rescue them from all the pain and deception.

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“Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you because I am humble and gentle at heart and you will find rest for your souls” (Matthew 11:28-29). Lord, You offer a better way. You offer peace and rest, and You are a gentle and humble savior who longs to take away all these struggles and bring renewal and healing. Help us to show the world who You are: You are close not distant, You are love not hatred, You care about pain and suffering. You say: *“I have wanted to gather your children together as a hen protects her chicks beneath her wings, but you wouldn’t let me”* (Matthew 23:37). May those struggling with sexuality and gender confusion hear You calling them to come to You!

Exposure of Demonic Agendas

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Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done....They know God’s justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them too (Romans 2:28, 32).

Lord, we ask You to expose the demonic agenda behind "Pride" Month and the ever increasing push toward normalizing sexual perversion and transgender ideology. Open the eyes of believers and unbelievers alike to the evil targeting our children and leading them into sinful choices and practices. We thank You that as the Enemy overplays his hand, people are starting to rise up, and we pray that this would continue and that many parents would turn to the Church as the source of wisdom and truth amid all this depravity.

They shoot from ambush at the innocent, attacking suddenly and fearlessly. They encourage each other to do evil and plan how to set their traps in secret. ... As they plot their crimes, they say, "We have devised the perfect plan!" Yes, the human heart and mind are cunning. But God himself will shoot them down with his arrows, suddenly striking them down. Their own tongues will ruin them, and all who see them will shake their heads in scorn (Psalm 64:4-8 NLT).

Heavenly Father, innocent children are being ambushed in so many ways by those with evil in their hearts and by those who are deceived into thinking they are being kind and inclusive. Expose the attempts of Satan to indoctrinate even the youngest children with sexual and gender content in media, in the classrooms, in their communities, and on the internet. Reveal this for what it is: sexualizing and confusing children to lead them into lifestyles that are in direct opposition to the word of God. We ask You to overturn and reverse every attempt of the Enemy to destroy Your creation and to mutilate, sterilize, and pervert an entire generation of young people. For all who are complicit in this evil — including within government, education and the churches — *May their own tongues ruin them and all who see them shake their heads in scorn* (Psalm 64:8).

Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them (Ephesians 5:11).

Lord, expose the utter madness of gender mutilation and experimental hormonal treatments, and bring to light every study or individual case that documents irreversible harm. Where truth is being suppressed and hidden, shine your light upon it and bring it into the open. Call out those who have walked this path reaping its destruction and use them powerfully to sound the alarm. Call out "Pauls" from among the "Sauls" who are pushing these demonic doctrines, and in a divine reversal make them the loudest voices for You, promoting holiness, biblical marriage, sexual purity and God-given identity.

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Awareness of the Battle and Our Weapons

My heart pounds within me, I cannot keep silent. For I have heard the sound of the trumpet; I have heard the battle cry (Jeremiah 4:19 NIV).

Mighty Jehovah Sabaoth, God of Angel Armies, awaken Your people to hear the battle cry in our nation, our states, our cities, our schools and colleges, and our homes. Let us not sit idly by but instead answer the call, as the Lord calls out his warriors (see Joel 3:11). When the Lord is looking for someone to stand in the gap (see Ezekiel 22:30) may He find me and find you. Remind us, Lord, that we have spiritual weapons with divine power (2 Cor 10:4). As the Enemy comes against our children and our youth, let us cry out: *Praise the LORD, who is my rock. He trains my hands for war and gives my fingers skill for battle. He is my loving ally ... and I take refuge in him. He makes the nations submit to me* (Psalm 144:1-2 NLT). Father, subdue under us those who are pushing harmful transgender ideology and make us ready as powerful intercessors, spokespeople, and warriors for You in any way You wish to lead. Give us back the ground that was taken from under our noses, and by the power of Your Holy Spirit motivate us to enter the battle and never back down.

Breaking Off Deception and Deliverance

And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. ... They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! (Romans 1:21, 25 NLT).

Father God, for decades this nation has been on a slippery slope of sin and destruction, and our young people are the victims of that culture and of the lies they are being fed. We ask right now, in Jesus' all-powerful name, that You would break off the deception from an entire generation and, in one sudden moment, open their eyes to the madness, the deceit, and the lies they have swallowed. Where any minds are now dark and confused, bring forth light and clarity. Wherever any preceding generations have traded the truth for lies, restore Your truth to the young. You are a good Father, and You have good plans for them. You have given us all a *good* Shepherd, one who has come that we might have life, and that we might have it to the very fullest (see John 10:10). We need only to choose to follow Him.

There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death (Proverbs 14:12 NIV).

“And you will know the truth and the truth will set you free” (John 8:32 NLT).

Lord, so many are caught up in believing that they are in the right way, when actually they are walking a road that leads to eternal death. But Jesus is still *the way, the truth and the life*, leading us away from the chains of death and toward life with the Father. We pray that those who are lost in their sin and in sexual confusion will come to know the truth so that they may be set free. Lift the veil from over their minds so that they can understand the truth (see 2 Corinthians 3:14-15) and no longer walk in darkness.

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Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God — truly righteous and holy (Ephesians 4:21-24 NLT).

Lord God, we praise You for your redemptive plan: that we who were once trapped in sin and death should now be renewed and transformed by the blood of Jesus and the power of Your Spirit. We ask that the same gift be bestowed on those trapped in LGBTQ lifestyles. Deliver them from corrupt and lustful hearts; reveal to them instead the truth of Jesus, and infuse them with a new nature that enables them to become holy and righteous in Your sight, for we know that Your Son came to destroy the works of the devil (see 1 John 3:8).

Protection for Our Youth

Arise, cry out in the night, as the watches of the night begin; pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord. Lift up your hands to him for the lives of your children (Lamentations 2:19 NIV).

Father God, You gave us the gift of children, and Your word tells us: “*See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven*” (Matthew 18:10 NIV). We ask for Your mighty hand of protection over the youth of this country and especially over the *Christian* youth. Satan is going after them with everything he has in order to pull them away from You. So Lord, put it upon the hearts of Christian parents, grandparents, and other family members to cry out to You, to lift up their hands for their children. Protect their minds from sexual and gender indoctrination and from the deception that such lifestyles do not go against the word of God. Protect them from false compassion and from fear of the world, and enable them to speak forth truth. For those already struggling with LGBTQ issues, we seek Your protection from mutilation and harmful chemicals and from the risk of sterility and lifelong regret. Bring Your deliverance, Lord, along with the desire to live a life that is holy and pleasing in Your sight. Grant that this holy longing might overwhelm the desire for fleshly things, making them choose to follow You over anything in this world.

Strategies for the Church

“Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the LORD from your mouth is the truth” (1 Kings 17:24 NIV).

Heavenly Father, we come to You in humility and in angst over what is going on in our nation, especially during this month in which our nation is celebrating “pride” and sexual sin — calling “evil good, and good evil.” We know that many of those who are caught up in this lifestyle have no idea that what they are doing is sinful. Therefore, we pray for opportunities to speak the truth in love to them, with grace and compassion. You are a compassionate and merciful God, and we are all sinners and unclean in Your sight but for the blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Lord, make us bold lions (see Proverbs 28:1) and courageous warriors for the truth of Your kingdom. We confess to fear of speaking the truth in a world that does not want to hear truth, a world that labels truth as “hatred” or “bigotry.” But Lord, deliver Your Church from all fear of man. Make us willing to do whatever it takes to be representatives of Jesus in a dark and lost world.

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Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone (Colossians 4:5-6 NLT).

We want to act in accordance with Your will and Your plans, so that anyone trying to accuse us falsely of wrongdoing may see the good we've done and glorify You for it (see 1 Peter 2:12). Lord, keep us from being hypocrites. Instead, may our *whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless* (1 Thessalonians 5:23) so that we might not undermine through sinfulness our message of repentance and new life in Christ. Even when we must disagree with anyone's beliefs or choices, help us do so in a loving way that does not compromise Your holy truths and morals. Teach us, Lord, so that we will have a right response — seeing these people as lost and hurting souls who need a savior, and as a harvest field You have called us to reap. Lord, send forth Your laborers into these harvest fields, as You did so faithfully at the satanic convention in Boston. Prepare the Church to be everything we need to be, so that we can present Jesus to these people as the better way and the only way — embracing, discipling, and loving them as they begin to trust and follow Him.

Church to Be a Place of Truthful Love

God's will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin. Then each of you will control his own body and live in holiness and honor — not in lustful passion like the pagans who do not know God and his ways. ... God has called us to live holy lives, not impure lives (1 Thessalonians 4:3-5, 7).

Father, we pray that *all* pastors, leaders, and believers would take Your word to heart and teach that Your will is for us to be holy, avoiding sexual sin of any kind. Jesus prayed that You would sanctify us by the truth of Your word, so let us, as the Body of Christ, be those who speak truth of your word over all those caught up in transgender and homosexual confusion and sin. If we are not speaking over them the truth of their God-ordained identity, then nobody is, so let us take this to heart and be faithful to Your word. Silence any church leaders who are preaching a false gospel of tolerance for sin, so that they can no longer lead their flocks astray.

Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth. Then they will come to their senses and escape from the devil's trap ... (2 Timothy 2:25-26).

Let all that you do be done in love (1 Cor 16:14).

Lord, make our churches places where people struggling with sexual confusion and gender dysphoria can feel safe to share those struggles. May they know that they are loved, even if we do not agree with their choices. And from that place of love, may they be led to the arms of Jesus Christ and find their true identity in Him. Make us humble and gentle like Jesus as we take every opportunity to instruct the lost and broken souls in the truth. Put your power in our words, so that the truth will strike deep into their hearts and they might be freed from the devil's snare. We pray they would be drawn to the Church because in a world full of lies and pain they know we're offering something authentic, truthful, and genuinely loving. May they find a far greater identity here than in their sexual orientation or gender.

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10 Praying Against Counterfeit Compassion

“If I warn the wicked, saying ‘You are under penalty of death, but you fail to deliver the warning, they will die in their sins. And I will hold you responsible for their deaths. If you warn them and they refuse to repent and keep on sinning, they will die in their sins. But you will have saved yourself because you obeyed me’” (Ezekiel 3:18-19).

Lord, we ask that every church and every Christian who is promoting "Pride" and "Love Is Love" will have a sudden, deep conviction that they are leading people down the wide path to Hell. It is not "love" to leave someone in sin when You have commanded us to go and bring the salvation message to the world. Give us deep love for all those who are caught in this so-called lifestyle, but help us to demonstrate Your love in a way that neither affirms nor condones sinful practices. Let us be Your watchmen and watchwomen sounding the alarm for these people when everybody else is crying tolerance and acceptance. Let us love these lost souls enough to be willing to be vilified and despised by the world so that they have a chance to repent and be saved. May we be as the Scripture commands: *Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is evil. Hold tightly to what is good* (Romans 12:9 NLT).

***Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness* (Isaiah 5:20).**

Father, Your word proclaims woe and sorrow upon those who call good evil, and evil good, so we intercede for all those who are caught up in this lie as LGBTQ "allies" and "supporters." We ask that You would open their eyes to the absolute fact that You are God and Your words are truth (see 2 Samuel 7:28). Many people sincerely believe they are being loving and affirming to others, while having no idea of the spiritual and eternal consequences of in fact glorifying and promoting what is detestable to You. Give them a divine revelation of the wrong that they are doing, a realization that will drive them to their knees in repentance and godly sorrow.

11 Praying Against Ungodly Laws

***Woe to those who enact evil statutes and to those who constantly record unjust decisions* (Isaiah 10:1 NASB 1995).**

Lord, across this nation some lawmakers are trying to push damaging bills that would allow children to access all manner of medical and surgical interventions to change their God-given gender. We praise You for all the states that have already enacted laws to limit or prevent access to puberty blockers or gender reassignment surgery, and we ask You for more such laws across the entire country. We ask right now, in Jesus' name, that our own state might soon become one of those. We desire to see a turning of the tide, so that next year there will be no "pride" flags anywhere, but rather testimonies of the hundreds who've been saved, who have joined the family of God because Your people stood and spoke the truth in love. Open the eyes of lawmakers and voters to the harm that trans surgery does to minors who have no idea what the long-term ramifications can be. Expose the lie that "early transitioning" brings happiness and reduces suicides; instead we ask You for laws that provide safeguards and enforce psychological counseling and nonmedical interventions for confused children.

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Harvest in the LGBTQ Community

We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are (Romans 3:22 NLT).

Father, we praise You because every single person, no matter who they are or what they have done, can be made right with You through faith in Jesus. Bring this wonderful truth to the forefront for those in the LGBTQ community, and we pray that they would build their identity on who they are in Christ: chosen, called, loved, gifted, victorious, hope-filled, renewed. Reveal to them that their gender identity is not who they are, that they are indeed so much more, and that they can continue to be so much more when they submit to Christ, who offers them abundant life. This we pray and declare over the LGBTQ community: that they will now *put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created [them]* (Colossians 3:10 NASB 1995).

“In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven’t strayed away!” (Luke 15:7 NLT).

Merciful and loving Lord, we ask You for a great harvest amongst the LGBTQ community. You rejoice over even one person who is saved, but You are the God who *is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think* (Ephesians 3:20 NKJV), so we are asking for the souls of the other 99 too. *Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him* (Psalm 33:8 NKJV) as we see what You will do in people who seem so far from You and even openly opposed to and in rebellion against You. We pray that those caught up in sinful lifestyles would move from a place of rebellion to one of humble repentance as they hear Christ say: *“Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near.”*