# The Lepers Among Us



"Failure to live out the reality of Jesus Christ's presence in the common life of the church with those who struggle with same sex sins is a disease of epic proportions, a malignancy that spreads throughout the Body and resurfaces as the Evangelical, Biblebelieving church attempts to deal with other sin issues. This failure is merely symptomatic of other deeper issues within the body, diseases that are not so easily identifiable nor that carry the same stigma or bigotry: spiritual complacency and ambivalence, hypocrisy, unaccountability and Biblical ignorance."

# - The Lepers Among Us

#### **About Jim Reynolds**

Jim has taught theology, religion, philosophy and biblical studies at Pepperdine University, the University of Texas, San Jose Bible College and is currently an adjunct professor at Dallas Christian College and Austin Graduate School of Theology. He has been a licensed marriage and family counsellor, is a licensed attorney at law and has published numerous articles and four books.

Jim holds a Doctorate from the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California and a Law degree from Southern Methodist University.

# Full Day Programme: Fri 20 Jan 2012

#### 10.00 Welcome

# 10.10 Session 1

God: Creation, Redemption and the Church:

- Homosexuality within the Bible's Theology
- Exegesis of Biblical Passages
- Hermeneutics Moving from Then to Now!

# 11.00 Tea/Coffee

### 11.20 Session 2

**The Church:** Embodying the Word in the Church of Jesus Christ – part 1

- The Lepers among us
- Embodiment the Lord's Test!
- A Typical Tragedy
- Church Be Healed, Grow up, and Follow Jesus

#### 12.00 Session 3

**The Church:** Embodying the Word in the Church of Jesus Christ – part 2

- All of us Get Healed Together or Nobody Gets Healed: Marriage, Chaos, Love Disorders, Sexual Inversions and Gender Confusions
- Fallen church leaders and members.
- Naming the sin, lifting the shame.
- Scandals, forgiveness, healing, accountability and restoration

#### 1.00 Lunch (provided)

#### **1.45 Panel Discussion**

#### 2.45 Tea/Coffee

#### 3.00 Session 4

#### The World's cultures:

- The Last 40 years
- Paganisms New and Old
- Nurture, Nature and our Moral Choices
- Addiction, Sin and Choice
- Normal Sinfulness or a Sickness?

# 4.00: Close

# Half Day Programme: Sat 21 Jan 2012

# 10.00 Welcome

#### 10.10 Session 1

God: Creation, Redemption and the Church:

- Homosexuality within the Bible's Theology
- Exegesis and Hermeneutics Moving from Then to Now!

### 10.50 Tea/Coffee

### 11.10 Session 2

The Church: Embodying the Word in the Church

- The Lepers among us !
- Embodiment : our healing together
- Scandals and restoration

#### 12.00 Session 3

### The World's cultures:

- The Last 40 years
- Paganisms New and Old
- Nurture, Nature and our Moral Choices

#### 12.50 Close

**Belfast:** Two conference opportunities: Friday 20th January 2012 • 10h00-16h00 or Saturday 21st January 2012 • 10h00-13h00 (half day - condensed version of friday) Venue: Orangefield Presbyterian Church (kindly allowed) 464 Castlereagh Rd BT5 6BH

In addition to Friday/Saturday Conference, Dr Reynolds will preach:

#### Sunday 22nd January 2012, at:

(am) Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church, (pm) Ballynahinch Baptist Church

#### London: Emmanuel Centre, Westminster Friday 27th January 2012 10h00-17h30 and 18h30-20h00

In addition to the Friday Conference, Dr Reynolds will preach:

Sunday 29th January 2012, at: (am) St John's Tunbridge Wells (pm) St Mark's Battersea-Rise

#### Two relevant books

#### The Lepers Among Us (2007)

"The call is for the Church to be and become Family for all sinning Saints, including those who struggle with same



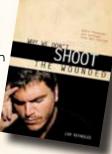
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shame and begin mediating grace openly to all believers who strugale with gender identity issues.

Like all of us, same sex strugglers from time to time need professional counselling or a para-church group, but neither can possibly do the work of publicly and openly redeeming a life for a lifetime. Only the Church can do such a great work!"

#### Why we don't Shoot the Wounded (2010)

Why We Don't Shoot the Wounded makes the case for the redemption and restoration of fallen church leaders and members, rather than ostracising them through shame and guilt, or forcing them to permanently step down from their calling within a faith community.



Jim Reynolds cites biblical precedents in the lives of leaders in Israel and the Church, and retells the story of the God who seeks to restore, and who calls all of us to become the Church who heals the wounded. Church members, he says, need to be equipped to respond when one of their own "is overtaken by a trespass, to restore such a one with a spirit of gentleness." This is done within the context of naming the sin, lifting the shame, guilt and secrecy surrounding church scandals, and then moving through the process of forgiveness, healing, accountability and restoration.

# About Core Issues Trust

CORE seeks to provide support for relationally and sexually damaged and wounded adults who seek wholeness,

and desire to walk in obedience to the Gospel of Christ. Grieving for those whose sense of rejection and abandonment is increased through the well-intentioned, but often misinformed acts of Christians seeking to uphold the Biblical prohibition on homosexual acts, CORE seeks to explore appropriate patterns of relating in both singleness and in marriage. It takes seriously the Biblical injunction to "love one another deeply, from the heart" (1 Peter 1:22),

and promotes the idea that change is possible.





**Co-Directors** -Mike Davidson, PhD • Lisa S Nolland, PhD

Council of Reference: Rev David Johnston, (Presbyterian, NI); Rev Derek McKelvey (Presbyterian, NI); Dr Paul Miller (Psychiatrist, NI); Canon Chris Sugden (C of E, GB); Andrea Minichiello Williams (Barrister, GB); Mr Dermot O'Callaghan (Church of Ireland, NI); Prof Jeffrey Satinover Scientist, Psychiatrist, USA) and Rev Hadden Wilson (Baptist, NI)

#### **Suggested Donation:** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan ( $\pounds$ 20) Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> Jan ( $\pounds$ 10) Other events: Freewill offering **Further information:** www.core-issues.org Mike Davidson info@core-issues.org Phone 07833098998



**Core Issues Trust** is accepted by HMRC as a Charity. (Tax Number XT29880)

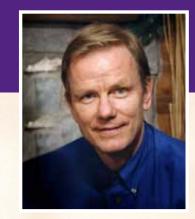
The organisers welcome to this event all those who might held by Core Issues Trust who seek to attend for the purpose of engaging with the speakers.



Core Issues Trust presents:

# The Lepers Among Us Homosexuality and the Life of the Church

With Dr Jim Reynolds Belfast • London



Jim Reynolds - pastor, teacher, author and attorney at law considers compassionate ways of ministering to same sex attracted believers and seekers. He also explores neopaganism, the religious underpinning of 21st century culture and how pastors and their churches can respond in clarity.