



“Finished!”

**By
Doug. M**

*BLACK FOREST PRESS
490 Mountain View Drive
Mosheim, Tennessee 37818
1-800-451-9404*

Finished Doug M.

**Cover design
by
Kellie Warren**

Disclaimer

This document is an original work of the author. It may include reference to information commonly known or freely available to the general public. Any resemblance to his published information is purely coincidental. The author has in no way attempted to use material not of his own origination. Black Forest Press disclaims any association with or responsibility for the ideas, opinions or facts as expressed by the author of this book. No dialogue is totally accurate or precise.

Printed in the United States of America
Library of Congress
Catalogue-in-Publication

ISBN: 1-58275-166-8

© Copyright 2005, Acceptance Fellowship Ministries all rights reserved.

No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the author

www.BlackForestPressPOD.com
www.MindTree.com

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Table of Contents

Table Of Contents	3
Introduction	5
1 Simple Words	7
2 It's Finished	11
3 Cookie Jars & Puppy Dogs	16
4 Who's to Blame?	20
5 Grandpa's in the House	25
6 Nuts and Bolts of Victory	28
7 Oops I missed	32
8 Steps	35
9 Powerless	37
10 Forgiven	39
11 Purpose	40
12 Already Broken	41
13 A Lie	42
14 Rediscover	43
15 Praise	44
16 Inventory	45
17 Admit	46
18 Amends	47
19 Fear	48
20 Relationships	49
21 Growth	50
22 Outreach	51
23 Appendix	52
Is change possible	59
History	62
The Finishing Room	63

I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.

He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, *and* established my goings.

And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD. Psalm 40: 1-3

Introduction

The human mind has a “thing” for deeper understanding. We feel that we are unable to grasp the true meaning of our smallest problems or truly comprehend anything without the help of “professionals”. Counselors of many types abound. Everyone seems to be totally caught up with gaining insight into the newest theories. We are enthralled with the most intellectual sounding names or plumbing the depths of our inner self. Religion-ese is the language of the times. But the children don’t understand a word of it.

Fascination with complex and sometimes overly depressing introspection has driven many people, who truly want recovery from addictive behavior, to give up without attaining the joys and freedom they seek. Yet joy and freedom from all unwanted SSA (Now we have to call it SSA “same sex attraction”) is waiting for those who will “seek with all their heart”. (You may want to replace those letters with others of your own. SSA does not have a corner on the pain market and the principles in this little book will work for any of the “inner pains”.)

Over fifty years ago I began a journey to find freedom from my homosexuality. Thirty years of “real freedom” have now passed and I have seen many different approaches developed in the treatment and understanding of the problem.

Volumes of excellent material have been published and ministries have come into being all over the country to assist the person seeking help (I know because I helped to found one of the oldest of those ministries). God has been good and many have truly been renewed in his image. Miracles beyond imagination have been revealed. Thousands are now free where, when I began the journey, there were none that could be found.

The purpose of this book is not to question the great healing that has been accomplished for those beautiful children of God. It is not to challenge the work of the dedicated servants in the ministries of hope.

The purpose is to express a cry of deep longing for the freedom of greater numbers of hurting, despairing children. It is to enable them to find the freedom that we hold so precious.

The purpose is to ask, “Why not thousands and hundreds of thousands more?”

Our God is so good and His power is so great I can only offer the loudest praise for what he has done. However, I see the youth of today being deceived into believing that there is no hope of change. My inner being is weighed down with the burden of finding a way to reach more of those that could be released from the bondage of one of the biggest “lies”.

We must find a way to spread the truth of “healing, growth and renewal”. We must find a way to reveal the “true image of God” in our lives. We must *become* the answer to those burning, sincere questions. Is change really possible? Can I truly love and can I be loved? Is God real? Does He really love me?

Notice that I wrote, “become” the answer to those questions, not “give” the answer. We must “become” Gods simple answer. I can give you a theory. I can give you a perspective, but until I “become” a simple visual “reality” for the children lost in the “lie” they will never believe that change and healing is even possible. We must “become” a simple, totally understandable, “YES”!

To become that ‘YES’ we had to have been the opposite. To “give” an answer is good but to those in the depth of depression and guilt, the answer will only be credible if they see we truly “became”. With that ‘becoming’ a belief in the reality of hope is opened.

A simple principle from the Bible proves this point. “And the Word (Jesus) *was made flesh and dwelt among us*, (and we beheld His glory...)” John 1:14 “He was in all points tempted like we are, yet without sin.” Jesus “*became*” so we could see the *reality*, the *possibility* and the *beauty* of “becoming”.

Chapter 1

Simple Words

Hey “Stupid!” “Pervert!” “Homo!” “Different!” “Queer!” These are simple little words. *Words that hurt*. All these words were “*me*.” The real me. That’s what I believed anyway. Maybe that’s what you believe. Lets begin to look at simple hurting words and discover the reason you’re reading this book.

Perhaps some of those words have been used to describe you. If not, other words, fat, skinny, ugly, black, white, have been (put your own hurting word here). Maybe those words were used in ways that hurt you even more. I know that, at first, you didn’t even understand the hurting words but, as time went on, they all took on a “life meaning” for you. When you put them all together they seem to explain, and become, who you feel you are.

You might say, “Words become reality”. The words I’m going to attempt to use in this book are simple. Nothing fancy, nothing that can be twisted and nothing that can be turned into a hammer to beat you over the head. I’ll try to use nothing except words of hope and growth.

Why are you reading this book? The words in the title may have grabbed your attention and something inside you had to find out what it is all about. Your mind is filled with a confused hope that there may be some truth to the simple words “change”, “healing”, and “renewal”.

Perhaps someone that cares deeply for you thinks you need to read these words and placed this book in your path. (Allow them to love you.)

Whatever the reason, the first word I want to use is “**simple**”.

I can be a genius but if the words that I hear aren't understood, I won't gain anything. I used to feel, that I was far above "simple." My life was so complicated, that I didn't even want to hear something as simple as "simple". On the other hand, with all my feelings of superiority, **I was "simply" miserable.**

There is another reason for me to write this book using simple words. Jesus spent most of his life teaching. His method was as simple as you could get. He told stories. In fact His stories were so simple that they were completely *understood by the children* listening to him. (However they confused most of the smartest men of his time)

Everyone remembers the simple words He spoke because they cut through all the excuses. Those simple words and stories left no doubt that there was real hope for any lost child.

Maybe the reason some of the great healers, preachers and leaders of our time fail in the area of helping those with SSA is that they are forgetting to be simple in their understanding and teaching. (...just a thought),

I think I would like to use the old *KISS* method (*Keep It Simple Son*) as we examine and discover the freedom and joy you want so much. Notice I did not say, "try to find" the freedom. Some say I "try very hard", others say I'm "very trying". Both have meaning. Words become reality. Words can keep us from success or assure success. Choose not to "Try", but instead choose to "Discover". Discovery of the "simple truth" will assure that your joy becomes reality.

Back to the words.

The hurt of being "Gay" probably is well understood in your mind. You know the real meaning of that word. Some say that being "Gay" is not a problem. Others say that you were "Born Gay" so why try to change. Still others say you should be forced to act in ways that you can't even picture as "normal".

Some think you should conform to their way of life or be punished. On a good day, you might even be consigned to the flames of hell by a "true Christian brother". Whatever you were told you

know, just as I knew, it is not fun (gay) to be different. It's not fun to be laughed at and it's not fun to be hated. **It just hurts!**

How do we stop the hurt? Most of us who live those "hurts" learn to simply bury it, ignore it, deny it, lie about it, or rebel against it by doing something self-destructive. Those are the ways we learn to survive. We become masters at deception. The problem with these methods of coping is that they only make things worse. When you begin to "live a total lie" everything else in your life suffers.

We do not intend for the hidden "lie" to erupt as a bleeding ulcer. (I've only had four small bowel resections and fifty-eight transfusions). We don't plan for the little child inside to be revealed as an effeminate wimp. (I went out and learned to drive an eighteen-wheeler and carried a "chain drive wallet" to hide the wimp inside). We don't say to ourselves "I think I'll get Aids today", or "I think I'll become the joke everyone can laugh at". We just hide and deceive and pretend we are normal. We develop "**An Illusion of Normalcy**". We build walls of separation and avoidance around ourselves and scream from the inside "please love me. I didn't do any thing wrong". Then we find others like ourselves and, until we sexualize the relationship, (which usually happens quickly) we almost feel human. The guilt sets in. But at least, for a time, we feel we are not alone.

Now let's look at the simple truth. Let's examine and explore a possibility. Is it possible **you have been duped?** You may have bought into a lie that is so destructive that, unless, a miracle happens you will be forever lost and lonely in your own world of self-destruction and inner hatred.

The simple truth is that you were never what you "felt you were". You believed feelings and feelings are not the true reality. They just seem real to you. Any good salesman will tell you that if I can get you to "perceive" something as real, then, "it is real to you" and you will buy anything I try to sell you.

The truth is that, "you are" what God saw when he planned you before you were born. 'Before I formed thee in the belly I knew

you.” Jeremiah 1:5. You are a perfect creation. That creation has a plan and a purpose and, even if you have been sidetracked for a lifetime, the creator that planned you still loves and, in his master plan, accepts you completely.

In all my intelligence (most people who think they’re gay claim to be and usually are very intelligent) I had to discover something very simple. I found it very hard to believe that, *because, “I feel” like I am gay, doesn’t mean I “really” am gay.* I refused for years to think that I could be wrong. I knew the pain I felt. I knew my “normal”

“I” didn’t think it could be that simple. But it is. It’s just that simple. God loved me, loves me and will always love me. Better yet, He loved you, loves you and will always love you. Perhaps He loves you even more because right now you are hurting.

Lets put it another way. The first promise I found in the bible that really opened this simplicity to me is **“He that has begun a good work in you will perform it.” Phil. 1:6.**

When He planned me it was a “complete plan”. He planned to finish me completely. So the simple truth is I’m already finished. **I’m already perfect in his eyes.** All I need to do is acknowledge it and shout it. I’m not “gay”! I’m really, truly, and completely a finished normal person. I’m Gods child and, to quote a poster, “He doesn’t make no junk.” And “He isn’t finished with me yet.” I just need to finish growing up.

“Grown up” or “growing up” He still sees me as perfect. I don’t have to worry about it any more. And If I don’t have to worry about it, I’ll have time to be extremely happy. “I’ve come that your joy might be full.” (WOW)

Before you say “How simplistic!” “Doesn’t he know I really have a struggle here?” Remember, I was where you are now. That was only thirty years of true freedom ago. If God can do it for me for thirty years, maybe the reason I was there, was to be able to tell you that it’s “just that simple.” **(God had a plan for me and you’re part of it.)**

Please walk with me a bit further. I promise it’ll be simple.

Chapter 2

It's Finished

Did you ever read the final pages of a book just to find out how it ends? Maybe you've seen the final scenes of a movie while you were waiting for the next show to begin. When the movie began again there wasn't the same thrill of discovery because you knew everything would be OK. After all you already knew the ending. You know the winners and losers. The plot just lacks the suspense it might have had if you had left the conclusion until the excitement of the story was slowly brought to a peak.

Well I just can't wait! I'm going to tell you the ending of the story of your "gay" life. (No skeptical laughing allowed here.) **YOU WIN!!** That's right. You win in the end and everything you dreamed possible is yours. No more compulsion. No more tortured nightmares. You don't act like a whining defeated and rejected wimp anymore. You don't shrink in fear or walk with your head down as if someone has just hit you with a stick. The person that was so good at lying doesn't have to cover up anything anymore, because you have discovered a very simple fact. You're not gay any more! *You never were "gay"*.

You have a family and they hug you and love you! Your inner need for a male to love you (without the sex part.) is entirely fulfilled. Everyone that you see or talk to can't believe its really you. The shy little "girlie man" is a mature confident person.

People will say, "I never knew you had it in you." That's the beautiful simplicity. **You always had it in you!** You had just believed the lies that were fed you by everyone. Those statements about being "born Gay" were all lies and the hold that they had on you is entirely broken. (There has never been a successful repeatable study that proved that a genetic marker for the gay side of you even exists.)

You even “love” the God that you thought you hated so much. In fact you love him so much that your entire life is one big praise session. Everyone that sees you is in awe of the power of your God. Your true purpose, your pre-ordained plan, is fulfilled.

I've seen that ending. I've experienced first hand that completed story in my own life and believe me it's a wonderful ending.

OK, now that you've been told the end of the story, let's quit worrying about the ending and do a simple examination of the inner plot.

I believe in putting first things first so lets examine the “God” thing. (I can hear some of you saying about now. “Why should I love a God that made me, or allowed me to be made, the way I am? I hate Him!)

I think the reason we have to look at the simple side of God is that perhaps He's taking a rap He doesn't deserve. He's getting the blame for something that just isn't true. For instance, if your introduction to, and understanding of, God is formed by the patterns set by your earthly father, *could it be that the picture you have of God is totally distorted?*

If your father was a tyrant wouldn't God take that form in our mind? If our earthly father were that “totally absent or passive person” that so many of us know, wouldn't we feel that God just doesn't care.

Equation:

Daddy is a tyrant - Daddy represents God = I hate God!

Daddy is absent - Daddy represents God = God doesn't care!

Daddy didn't save me from the hurt = I hate God!

You can put Mommy in the equation just as easily. You can even put in the man who molested you, as I did, and you get a greater false impression of God.

You believe a lie!!! The truth is not what those people led you to believe. The truth is probably the exact opposite and the real truth will make you free. “You shall know (completely understand) the truth and the truth shall make you free.”

The simple truth is, we have a false understanding of God. We believed the lie, because the “pattern” for him in our life messed up. We have believed a lie and all of us rejected God because of that lie. Not only have we rejected him we have passed that rejection on to others.

If you have believed a lie about God, how do we find out the truth? That’s very simple. Just take a good long look at the real “Him”. (Will the real God please stand up!) How do I do that? God said He would make it simple for us to see Him. *He would “become” one of us* and then we would be able to see the real Him. We would be able to see the Truth. The texts that explain this are, “If you have seen me, you have seen the Father.” and “By beholding we become changed.” Now let’s look at Jesus. What do we see?

Here’s a man that ate with tax collectors and didn’t condemn prostitutes! He hugged lepers and cried at his best friends funeral. He loved to hold children on his lap and even danced at a friends wedding. Here’s also a man that did as his mother requested, but didn’t allow his mother to control or manipulate Him like a puppet (that might bear looking into a little further for some of us).

Here’s a man who saw and interacted with the lives of homosexual men everyday (Rome did have a reputation to live up to). Here’s a man who had the ability to say, “Lean your head on my chest and rest in my love” (Ask the apostle John). He not only understood, but he went out of His way to show how much the Father really loves us.

Never did He say one word that made a hurting person feel guilty. (He did, however, give the local ministers a hard time for neglecting to show that same love and for rejecting those who needed their help)

Jesus showed us so much of the Fathers’ love that we really

have no excuse for deciding that God hates us. He even went so far as to tell the Father that He, Jesus, would pay all the penalty that was required to make it possible for us to come home and live with Him and be part of the family again.

Then He proceeded to do just that. He took the whipping! He took the insults and ridicule! He took the rejection! He took the nails! He took the guilt that belonged to me! Then, as the blood ran down from His head to His feet He asked me to look and touch and see and understand that ***I am worth all “His” pain and suffering!***

I was part of His plan from the beginning. You were part of His plan from the beginning. I wish it had not been such a painful part that came from me, but it was. Yet He took it anyway. ***“By His stripes we are healed.”***

Then He did even more. He said **“IT IS FINISHED”**. Can’t you see? Can’t you now understand, that by looking at Him as He really is you will finally know, from experience, who God really is and that you have believed a lie?

How much more of a picture do I need! Now, I know (really understand) that no matter what has happen to me, no matter how much pain I have had, He has been there ahead of me and absorbed the guilt and agony and rejection that should have been mine, so that I am now free to make an informed decision. I can choose!

What was finished at his cross? My misunderstanding of him as a tyrant was finished. The lies about myself were finished. The predisposition to fail was finished. My depression was finished. My habits and addictions were finished. All the uncertainty of my life was finished. My guilt was finished. I could keep this list going for days, but I think you get the point.

I have now become that “original” new creation. I have become the creation that was interrupted by the lies. I am the creation that was never allowed to be completed. This time, however, He is going to finish what he started in me. You see He needs his brothers and sisters, you and me, back and He died to get us.

Now is perhaps a good time to ask if you have ever understood what really happened with Jesus. Have you experienced the peace

that comes from knowing the ending of your story? Have you ever asked to be part of the family of God? Have you personally met and learned to love your new brother, Jesus?

If you have not, it's simple. Just say "Thank you. Tell Him you're sorry and accept the free gift of his love." Know that your real Father is back in charge of the plans. *The truth has set you free, because Jesus said, "IT IS FINISHED"*.

Chapter 3

Cookie Jars and Puppy Dogs

“Don’t touch the cookie jar while I’m gone.” “OK Mom I won’t.” This is the command that guarantees that I will try to steal a cookie. I can hardly wait until mom is gone and I race for the step stool. Those stolen cookies are so much better. At least I think they are.

“Hey mom! The puppy got off his chain and he’s racing toward the road again.” How do you catch a puppy that’s going crazy with his escape mentality? The more you try to catch him the farther he dodges and runs.

The answer to the problems of resisting temptation and over-reaction to new found passion is one that everyone has to deal with.

Guilt overload, depression, self-destructive behaviors and open rebellion are the “lot” of anyone that has believed the lies of his upbringing.

Let’s restate this more simply. We are all “cookie thieves and crazy puppies!” and we don’t know how to stop! In fact, now we are “addicted” to just being rebellious. It is the only way we express the inner longings that plague us. It’s the person we think we have to be.

“It’s only human.” “I can’t change anyway.” “I was born this way.” “The “devil” “made me do it.” “That man raped me!” “I’m so afraid.” I think I could fill several pages with these statements! (Oops! Excuses) (Remember? I promised not to make this hard.) (No baloney.) What we are really saying is “I have no power in the situation.” “I’m out of control.” “I don’t really like what I’ve become but I don’t have any answers that have worked for me.”

That’s the *first true thing* we can say! “*We have no power!*” The answers that we know, have not worked so far and, until we

find an answer that does work, we won't have the "inner peace" we scream for during those times of depression.

Sometimes you feel like there is "someone" inside of you that is pulling and ripping and beating you until you have no strength left. In fact there seems to be a gang of little clones in there and they all want their own way. The "real" you does not seem to have a chance of staying in control.

I found in my own life that, "*You're right.*" There was a gang of little "Douglas' in there. They all had a piece of the action and they all were trying to get more. They all had their own names and they all had friends that they had invited in with them.

There was "Baby Doug." Age 1 (His friend was "Wimpy") He was crying and whining all the time because he thought mommy didn't love him. He believed the lies.

There was "Little Doug" age 4. (His friend was "Fear") (Fear was the one that came when I was curled in a little ball, naked under the steps, being beaten.) He was the one that sat in the sleigh while the neighbor taught him to do things that boys don't do to men and men don't do to boys. He was also the one that began to "like the feelings" from the "things" that the man taught him, because the man "loved" him. He believed the lies.

There was "Guilty Doug" age 4 (Guilty invited his friend "Liar") He knew what the man taught him was wrong but he didn't tell mommy. He believed the lies. They even made some up to cover up the hurt.

Then there was "Dougie" age 5, (His friend was "Manipulator") the one that thought that girls had all the power so he wanted to be one too. (He/she was the one who knew his two older sisters, mommy and grand mom ruled. He really wanted to be like them.) He believed the lies.

Then there was perhaps the strongest one of all. His name was "Homosexual" age 13. (His invited friend was "Pervert" age 10. (That one would do anything). I gave them their names when I discovered them in a dictionary and in a book on sex that I found at school. They tried to live up to every part of their names. Once

your mind gives the broken pieces a name and acknowledges their power they begin to control your life and you are no longer free.

Do you see the pattern? The real Douglas Edward M – was not in control. All the little splinter pieces of myself, (and their little demon friends), that were formed through very traumatic experiences became the real power in my life and all that they taught me was lies and misunderstandings.

Where am I going here? Simply put. The sum of our “broken parts” is more powerful and devious than the real core person inside. (They’re getting help from outside.) There is an answer to those pieces of brokenness. ***There is a way to have the “Truth” set us free.***

When I was 13 years old I “really” accepted Jesus. Now there’s a statement that some of you can’t believe. You know that for a large part of my life everything was in rebellion. I was not the “nice kid” everyone thought I was. (That was “Liar” in action) The fact remains I went up into an attic and cried and said “God please accept me, make me what you want me to be. Please take my life. I accept you!”

That was the same day a minister that I had never met handed me the little card at a lunch where we were together. That card had the bible text Philippians 1:6 written on it. **“He that has begun a good work in you will perform it.”** That was the day I began to realize and believe that “God would” complete his work in me. Somehow God was going to clear up all the mess my mind had accepted as reality.

I was a hard case and it would take him years to get me truly started again but He never gave up on me and He will never give up on you either. It will be finished in you.

The peace that came that night was “real” and I knew everything was going to be OK.

The part of me that accepted Jesus that night was the “inner core me”, the “real” Douglas Edward M. However all those little splinter pieces didn’t want to believe the fact that I was going to be “ok” with God. (They seemed to have had a life of their own.)

They hated God and they thought “*they*” had all the power.) They kept saying “why should we ask, or even want, to be forgiven for something we were forced, or born, into?” “God, however, didn’t listen to them. He just reached out to the inner core me and went about fulfilling his promise.

I didn’t realize or even acknowledge the fact that “they” even existed until years later. That didn’t stop God from beginning “the finishing” in me. He started to lead me in the only way I could go to receive a real understanding of the process and path He wanted me to go down.

Every time I went off his path He would gently, and sometimes not so gently, bring me back to the place where I went off, and let me walk further in the right direction. You see allowing me to make the choices for the right reasons ensured that a finished work of freedom would happen.

One simple fact about “cookie thieves and puppy dogs” is that if you “gently” lure them back, feed them good cookies, and not beat them to death they eventually will love you completely. They will, (Kids or Puppies), snuggle up and receive the attention that they desperately crave and you always wanted to lavish on them. They will become completely happy in your affection and love. They will tell others about your love and they will gain a “peace that passes all understanding”. They will also have an inner control that can only come from knowing the “real you”. (Here’s that misunderstood God Thing again!)

Chapter 4

Who's to Blame?

“I didn’t choose to be this way!” “IT’S NOT MY FAULT!” Whenever I talk to a group of pro-gay activist the cry I hear is that, “I didn’t ask to be this way and I certainly shouldn’t have to change. In fact, to change probably would be denying my *real self*.” Anyway God couldn’t possibly hold me responsible for that. “I don’t think I should have to be forgiven for something over which I had no control.”

I guess that these arguments could hold merit *if they were true* but I have a few simple questions, and some observations, about them.

At this point please remember I am trying to get to the “simple” facts and, if change is possible, discover how to actually accomplish it. (I feel the hackles on a few necks being raised here.)

Simple Observation 1.

Those involved and their families want to constantly plead with pastors and counselors to tell them where they went wrong. Everyone feels so guilty, that we have a “problem.” They throw themselves on the fire of self-condemnation. Everyone is miserable, with feelings of guilt, for the rest of their years.

That’s when the devil really gets a thrill. *He knows the truth.*

Simple Observation 2.

As long as the children blame the parents, or the parents blame themselves, or the molested child blames the molester, or the broth-

ers blame the sisters, and everyone with the help of the good “scripture quoting” pastors secretly “blame” God, nobody ever recovers and finds true healing or inner peace. (Sorry pastors, sometimes we really hurt those that are bleeding by the zealous nature of our piety.)

The devil cheers even louder! *He knows the truth.*

Simple Question 1.

If I am not to blame for the SSA in my life, who is? (Actually I’d love to have found someone to place the total blame for this entire mess on. Then maybe I wouldn’t have felt so guilty about not being able to stop doing some of the things I loved to do.)

Simple Question 2.

If I could place the blame on someone else would it change the fact that I have a moral problem that needs to be addressed? (I’m still miserable)

Let’s go back and look at my original statement. “We have believed a lie”.

Let me simplify. I’ll take my own case.
“I” believed a lie.”

Question: Who told the lie?

Answer: My inner self told the lie.

Question: What was the lie?

Answer: Mommy doesn’t love me.

Question: What was the truth?

Answer: Mommy loved me very much, but she was extremely sick. She could not hold me for several months. She really wanted to hold me more than anything, she simply was not allowed to.

Question: When did my own “little self” tell me the lie?

Answer: When I was only 1 year old. (Remember the “little me” that thought mommy didn’t love him? Did he have the proper input and did I believe it as truth?)

Very Important Question: Was my own mind making decisions and, drawing conclusions, “before” it was *really* ready to make them?

Most Important Answer: My “little mind” was very intelligent. (measured IQ of over140). Perhaps it was jumping the gun on some of the “most important” conclusions dealing with gender identification, If that’s true, am “I” to blame for those misinterpretations?

If you follow this logic with all the other pieces of my splintered life you will see a marvelous pattern form. You will see that “super smart little me” was just to smart for my own good, and *I got most of the simple life changing answers wrong.*

Now let’s go back and look at the two “Simple Questions”.

Answer 1. A “very little”, “too young”, “overly smart” but “entirely wrong” self, made the wrong decisions in my gender identity. I “kept on believing” the lies and pushed the problems that they created deeper into myself. I goofed up myself. *Then I believed myself.* Remember one of those splinters of me is named “Liar”. (He may have had another friend, “Gullible”)

I, the “little me”, interpreted the information it perceived wrongly and no one is to blame except me. It was not Mom, Dad, the others that tried to destroy or influence my life and certainly not God that caused any of this. (Wow, God just took all the fun out of the “Poor Me syndrome”) (By the way, I had not reached the age of accountability so I can’t even really blame that bratty little me!)

Answer 2. Since I have no one to blame and the problem of moral development is one that can now be faced with real hope of change. I can only begin to thank and praise God for all the beauty of forgiveness. Everything changes when there is a, simple, clear resolution to what I believed were insurmountable problems. “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” And “*He that has begun a good work in you will perform it.*” *Phil: 1:6* “Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

Back now to the simple observations.

Observation 1. My family and I no longer need to plead for understanding. We now realize that our relationships can be and are being rebuilt. We don’t condemn each other. We “understand” that, we had misinterpreted the whole thing. “There is therefore no condemnation to those that are in Christ Jesus”

The devil isn’t so happy now. *WE KNOW THE TRUTH!*

Observation 2. We are finding true healing and recovery because we are not blaming each other for the things that are not our fault, or anyone else’s fault either. We have found forgiveness and we can give each other forgiveness, and praise, through the God who is now in control of our lives.

Now the devil is screaming! *WE KNOW THE TRUTH AND THE TRUTH HAS SET US FREE!*

Blame is not the answer! Those that claim that it’s not their fault have no ground to stand on. The answer is found in the fact that we have found the truth. We have found that everything we based our way of life on was a lie. Now we simply “relearn” and acknowledge. (We speak out the truth). The “arrested development” begins to get on with the business of growing up. We have found the wonderful “new creation” that was part of our plan since

God thought of us in His imagination. We have found a purpose in all our suffering and we have a task to do.

Our purpose will be to give glory to him because he reached out to pull us up from the terrible depression and guilt we felt. Our task is to “become” the answer for someone else who is in those depths of misery. We now can, with all joy, say that when Jesus said “It is finished.” **It really was!** The old concept of “Once gay always gay.” Is finished forever.

Chapter 5

Grandpa's in the House

“Visiting the iniquities of the fathers on the children unto the third and fourth generations.” Exodus 20:

We have gained some beautiful truth in the past few chapters. We found that God has simplified everything for us. He isn't the terror that we thought he was. We have found that He finished the “gay” problem at the cross. (He “finished” all the other problems at the same time.)

He has shown us that blame doesn't really matter and that we can re-establish all the broken relationships in our families. We can begin to grow again. What more can we wish for?

The following part of the story will seem extremely different to you, but it's the simplest way I know to share the real healing I have found.

I still had a small problem. It seemed like the ghosts of the past just wouldn't leave me alone. Those little splinter parts of me still seemed to have a great power in my life. There seemed to be no way to shut some of them up. Every time I would “see” (men are more visually oriented and stimulated than women) a certain person or type of person the chemical (Sex is mostly Hormones) side of me would kick in and I would fall back into the same old traps.

All the split persons that I seem to “be” also had a grand time making me miserable. (I mentioned a few of them earlier) Then I discovered a truth that I want to share with you.

There may be several other uninvited “people” sharing a room at your house. The tendencies of those that are our ancestors seem to be able to control us even from the past.

The things my father did I tend to do. In his past or the past

of some of my other family members there seems to have been ground given to the darker side of our nature. I am not the only one in the family tree that had SSA tendencies. Temper, lust, abuse, manipulation, and a hundred other family traits were very present in my make up.

Without starting a theological battle as to what these visitors might be, I will attempt to, at least, show how they can be removed from the control of our lives. I want to “Keep it simple Son”. So let’s just move on. Let’s say, “Grandpa has to go”.

If you wonder what your new wife will be like, look at her mother. (Yes, you can now expect to have a loving (Sexual)(oh no! not that!) relationship with the women that God chooses for you.) (Be careful about jumping that gun, and choosing a wife on your own.)

If you wonder what made grandma like she is, look and see what great grandma was like. It can get scary! They are all right there in your beautiful bride.

The point that I am trying to make is this. For you to be truly free. For you to have real victory in your life, all the splinters of yourself and all the intruders must be taken care of. This will mean that you may want to sit down with someone and let them help you explore the parts of your life that are not in your direct control. “Confess your faults one to another... that ye may be healed.” James 5:16

You will, as I did, discover that a good friend or counselor would be of the greatest help in facing the “demons” of self. And as each missing part of the “real” you is found, you in your mind, *can offer the same peace that you have in Christ to him.* Treat each part as if it were a real person. What I’m saying here may sound strange but look at it with me for a moment.

The splinter part of me that I called “Little Doug age 4” is really a piece of the whole that needed to be allowed to receive the peace and rest of knowing that “I don’t have to be afraid anymore.” Daddy, Father God is in control of everything, and He is covering you with his love. “Perfect love casts out all fear.”

“Little Doug age 4” needed a daddy. (He didn’t mature past his age, you see. He only acted way out of control for the rest of my life.) He needed to let go of, and throw out, his friend “fear”. In the name of Jesus we did that. Then “Little Doug” had a chance to grow up. He became one with the man Douglas Edward M-. He has now become as a “little child” in Christ. He found the Love of Jesus for himself.

Jesus said, “that except you become as little children, you cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven.” Can you see that when our “splinter selves” become as little children we experience the same things we as real and complete children experience. When daddy says Jump we don’t even realize there is anything to be afraid of. We just jump, giggling into Daddy Gods’ arms.

As long as they, “Little Doug” and “Fear”, were together I was tending to have bleeding spells. Inward fears and “guilt” (That one had to go too) come out as stress diseases.

When I consciously allowed those “splinter parts” of me to receive the peace of Christ. When, I received love instead of “fear” and “guilt”, the sickness went away. No more bleeding, no more transfusions. Only happiness.

I found that when we go over the hard parts of our life and take each one and bring it to the peace of Christ we begin to have growth in the problem areas at a remarkable rate.

When we claim back the ground. When we cast out all those traits of character Grandpa brought with him and used as footholds. We find joy beyond belief. When Grandpa leaves with all his partners and all the splinter parts of you are united with your “core self” in Christ, You will have the “peace of God” in your life.

You see “Grandpa has to go! Then Jesus can come all the way in.

Chapter 6

Nuts and Bolts of Victory

This is nuts! It can't be done! It just isn't that simple! Or is it?

*How do we actually overcome the urges to look at, or fantasize to the point of acting out in one of many different ways? Translation: How do I "not fail"? Different translation: **HELP!!***

Let's recap. I told you "It is that simple". You learned that you believed one big lie after another. You saw that Jesus finished all the problems at the cross. We learned about Puppies. I told you to kick out Grandpa. Now lets get really practical and finish this little booklet.

Here are some simple points to think about:

POINT: Jesus finished it all and the battle is already won. ***I never was "gay" because there really isn't "gay". (There is only a misinterpreted identity).*** The reason I know it's won is that He has won that part of me where I had absolutely no control. I can now look at women and really "see" and desire and love them as a man. (Not bad for the guy that vomited when a girl kissed him for the first time.)

POINT: Because Jesus finished the growth in me *I don't even think about the old attractions any more.* I probably could replay the old record but who in their right mind would want to.

POINT: ***How do I resist temptation? I don't!*** I give it to him and he resists it. The text in Ephesians 3:8-9 that says "**By**

grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of your selves: It is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. Means exactly what it says.

POINT: ***He does it all*** even if I don't deserve any of His love. (Grace) I simply believe. (Faith) I don't do anything except "believe". When a temptation comes I look at Jesus and say ***Thank you Jesus "It is finished"***. Jesus finished it, (Whatever your IT might be), at the cross and there is no need to fight it anymore!

POINT: When He died "It" died! ***I just declare it dead, (You'll have to try this to believe it.) Then It just goes away.*** Should there be any "I" in the "overcoming" part then "I" could say that "I" overcame a sin! "I" just can't possibly do that. It would be a boast and a lie. So I simply say, (shout with enthusiasm at the top of my praise voice) **Thanks Jesus !!!**

POINT: ***The child has nothing to do with the landing after the jump.*** Remember the little children thing? "Except ye become as little children." When a child just jumps, who has the responsibility to catch him? The father! . There is a true demonstration of faith here. He jumps, God catches. End of story! By the way, the more times the father catches him the easier it is for the child to jump!

POINT: When the Bible says "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." James 4:7 What it really says is, While you're ***declaring*** that "Jesus finished it all. At the cross." ***The devil has no ground to stand on and he simply falls backward into his own pit!***

POINT: ***Resisting, is not fighting back, it is stating the fact.*** Jesus won the fight already and I don't have to do anything but look at the "blood stains" on his feet at the foot of the cross to know and feel the reality of that victory. Read chapter two again if it didn't get into your soul the first time.

POINT: *All the broken splinters of my life can be loved back together* by simply inviting and allowing them to receive Christ. Those splinter pieces are real and have a life of their own. That life is revealed in the way they control you. Deal with them by allowing them to receive the same saving peace you found at your conversion.

POINT: *Either Jesus controls or they control.* “A double minded man is unstable in all of his ways. James 1:8 I believe that to be double minded means to let the broken parts maintain a life of their own. We need to bring all the brokenness together and let that stability (Jesus) become part of you that you have never had before.

POINT: *Peace comes with Thanksgiving and praise.* Philippians 4:4-13 “Don’t worry about anything. But in all things by *prayer and supplication with thanksgiving* let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God that passes all understanding will fill your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” ...

BIGGEST POINT: Please read that entire text again. The answer to all the temptation is here. The main point I would like to make is that when you wrap the phrases about prayer, supplication and thanksgiving together you will get a picture that maybe you have not seen before. *You will find that prayer and supplicating (asking and asking again) only works when it’s done as a great big thank you! You don’t have to keep begging God for anything!* Remember, It’s already finished. *Just declare once with a shout of praise and thanks* and the peace that comes from knowing, really knowing, that it’s finished already will allow a feeling of total acceptance to wash over you like a calming wave.

This has been a simple look at the issues of SSA. There is much more to be studied but with the solid beginning that is here in this booklet and a good biblical counselor the greatest desire of

your heart will become reality. You will be free from that destructive hold that has you pleading for freedom. The strength of any addictive behavior will be broken and you will join me in “becoming” a child of God. Revelation 12:11, *“and they overcame him by the blood of the lamb and the word of their testimony.”*

The two things needed for victory here are The Blood of the Lamb, and the word of their testimony. What is the word of their testimony? It is that “The blood of the Lamb” (Jesus on the cross) said “it is finished” to all the sins in their life. ***Remember I told you the end of the story was, YOU WIN!! So quit worrying about it. Just shout it out!!***

Chapter 7

Oops, I Missed

Well, this simple little booklet is already drawing some attention. It looks like I forgot something very important to a lot of people. I forgot to tell you that, even though it is “simple” to have victory in every area of your struggle, I’m supposed to prepare you to miss the mark a few times. After all we wouldn’t want you to stomp off mad just because God can do what he says he will. (That’s a Joke.) (Lighten up please.)

OK maybe they’re right. Maybe we should look at the possibility you’ll fail at some of the temptations that come. Maybe you’re human after all. In fact I think I can be pretty sure that, sooner or later, you’ll have to head back to the cross and receive a fresh dose of the Holy Spirit. God even said through Paul, “if” we sin we have an advocate with the father”. I think he might have been preparing us for the possibility of missing the mark once in a while.

Reality check! (I’m serious now.) Growth takes time. New understanding always causes a growth process. Children attain new levels of understanding every day. However, there is a way to grow without destroying yourself in the process. Every father that ever taught a child to ride a bicycle had to let go and let a crash or two happen. The child never learned balance until he had the wheel himself. It didn’t mean that I was going to take away the bike the first time my son fell. Neither will God.

An interesting pattern is given in the first chapter of the book of James.

²“My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; ³Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

“But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.” James. 1: 2-4

It seems from this text that God knows that you need to learn to ride the “temptation” bicycle. He has even made allowances for the fact that you might fall off once in a while.

He knows that to find balance (The ability to choose correctly) you must be allowed to be in the drivers seat.

The text says “Count it all Joy when you fall into divers temptation.” Isn’t that a contradiction? Absolutely not! It’s a command. Be happy when you get into trouble! (That’s my own translation)

Follow this simple logic. If you’re having a problem, it gives you a reason to thank God that He already finished the problem. It is a reason to shout his victory in the devils face.

It’s also a training process that eventually leads to an ongoing and highly effective praise habit. ***I believe true perfection is “simple continuous praise to the God that gives you a new and victorious life.”*** The more you are tempted the more you learn to praise!

Then, after a while, the devil will begin to get the picture and he will slow down on the temptations because he can’t stand to hear you praise God for all the victory. It just drives him nuts!

There is another curious, simple little text that I want us to look at. “And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him” 1 John 3:19. KJV

How do we know we are OK? (“of the truth”) How do we beat the temptations? ***We shall assure our hearts.*** Just what does that really mean? I think it means that we keep telling ourselves over and over again, “It is Finished!” The end of the story is written already! We simply keep telling our own minds (reassuring) ***We win! We win! Praise God We win! Because He (Jesus) won at the cross.*** (Sounds like praise with thanksgiving to me.)

Let’s get back to the real issue. I failed and slipped and goofed up and, whatever other term you want to use, for years. I still do! (battles change but growth continues) I know the battles you will fight because I fought most of them in my “growing up into

Christ". I can feel the pain and cry the tears of struggle with you, (So can Jesus), but, it becomes so much easier when we rush to 'praise with thanksgiving'.

For those who are worried that I am making this recovery process too simple, I would say. ***"I understand and realize the deep struggles it takes to gain victory. I also know that every new child needs to just be told he can succeed"***. No deep preaching, just a joyful hope of victory bolstered by a true story from one that has "become".

A NOTE OF EXPLANATION: The remaining sections of this booklet are a reprint of articles adapted from the Homosexuals Anonymous program and are reprinted from the first booklet in the "Hey God" set. The reason I am including them here is that anyone who needs to find assistance in the process of change will find them helpful and if they do not have a readily available support system The "Steps" provide a simple track to follow that has proven successful for over 25 years.

I have also included a simple of a program called "The Finishing Room". If you need a support group and do not wish to use the HA format, any church can adapt a group setting to the principles used in this program.

Chapter 8

“Steps”

You may have noticed that I have not used any names while writing this book. I have not even used my complete name as the author of the book. The reason for this that the next advance in the recovery process occurred when my counselor and I felt that it would be good to have the support of others that needed or desired to overcome homosexuality. We began to look for a model that could be used for the support group that we wanted.

Alcoholics Anonymous, (AA), seemed to have the best format that we could find. The step method seemed to lend itself to our recovery process and we began to adapt the “step” approach to our needs. It was after many hours of examination and study that together we, using the journals from my councilors’ years of recovery, and the step model from AA, formulated the “14-Step” program that became Homosexuals Anonymous.

We immediately began to realize the benefit of such a support group. There were growing pains and successes. Triumph and failure, but the overall affect was that anyone could come and receive encouragement from others that had the same feelings. Each meeting brought new hope to those who had no hope.

The organization began to grow. Today, there are chapters meeting all over the country and some foreign countries. Any person wishing to find help in recovery from homosexuality may contact this group and they will do all in their power to find others to help you. The next few chapters of this little book will help you examine the basis for change that we tried to give you with the original 14-Step program.

The Fourteen Steps of H. A.

1. We admitted that we were **powerless** over our homosexuality and that our emotional lives were unmanageable.
2. We came to believe the love of God, **who forgave us and accepted us** in spite of all that we are and have done.
3. We learned to see **purpose in our suffering**, that our failed lives were under God's control, who is able to bring good out of trouble.
4. We came to believe that God had **already broken the power** of homosexuality and that He could therefore restore our true personhood.
5. We came to perceive that we had accepted **a lie** about ourselves, an illusion that had trapped us in a false identity.
6. We learned to claim our true reality that as humankind, **we are part of God's heterosexual creation** and that God calls us to **rediscover that identity in Him through Jesus Christ**, as our faith perceives Him.
7. We resolved to entrust our lives to our loving God and **to live by faith, praising Him** for our new unseen identity, confident that it would become visible to us in God's good time.
8. As forgiven people free from condemnation, we made **a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves**, determined to root out fear, hidden hostility, and contempt for the world.
9. We admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being **the exact nature of our wrongs** and humbly asked God to remove our defects of character.
10. We willingly **made direct amends** wherever wise and possible to all people we had harmed.
11. We determined **to live no longer in fear of the world**, believing that God's victorious control turns all that is against us into our favor, bringing advantage out of sorrow and order from disaster.
12. We determined **to mature in our relationships with men and women**, learning the meaning of a partnership of equals, seeking neither dominance over people nor servile dependency on them.
13. We sought thorough confident praying, and the wisdom of Scripture for **an ongoing growth in our relationship with God** and a humble acceptance of His guidance for our lives.
14. Having had a spiritual awakening, we tried **to carry this message** to homosexual people with a love that demands nothing and to practice these steps in all our lives' activities, as far as lies within us.

Chapter 9

“Powerless”

We admitted that we were **powerless** over our homosexuality and that our emotional lives were unmanageable.

The first step to change is admitting that we have no power. I believed that I could not have changed my desire to be attracted to the same sex any more than you can change the reaction from looking at whatever person attracts you. I believed that the desire to change might be there, but the ability was not. When I began to admit that “I” do not have the power, two things began to happen.

One, I had to begin to accept the fact that “I am not in control”. Our whole life is an effort to maintain control of everything around us. Even the fact that we think we are homosexual is a subconscious effort on our part to control. We try to control the pain we feel as the things of life become clear to our consciousness.

We form our sexual identity on the model of those around us and if the model is improper, we try to subconsciously control what we become. If mother is dominant, we pattern in that direction. If the male role model is lacking or extremely weak we pattern in the wrong direction. If traumatic events, such as molestation, become part of the experience then the mind makes the adjustments and we block the pain.

In making these adjustments our mind may not, and usually does not, perceive the truth of the outside situation. It may make our gender identification on misinformation. Our mind may simply believe a lie and misinterpret the facts.

There are many theories for the cause of homosexuality. Each is based on studies of patterns that show up in large numbers of people that have the manifestation, but they all seem to relate to a

basic fact. The mind of anyone with these desires seems to be set very early. The patterns may not manifest until later in life but they are there. The course is set within the first few years of life.

There are those, who after choosing a certain lifestyle, seem to develop the feelings. Those feelings become “fixed” with enough reinforcement, but the underlying factors are still evident. Our mind has developed a certain sexual reaction to outside stimulus. We feel perfectly normal. We have no control over those reactions.

Second, our emotional lives become totally unmanageable. When we discover that we are “abnormal” the process of living the double life begins. Anger, hatred against God or any authority figure, selfishness, and a total breakdown of our ability to cope with depression cause us to block the healthy emotions that would normally be part of our being. As these emotions break down, the loss of control becomes obsession. We are not able to keep ourselves from acting out. The more we try to control, the more we lose control. We seem to become everything we hate.

It is at this point, the point of realization that we are powerless, that we can begin to experience the process of change. This point of “hitting bottom” is the place we must reach before our mind will relinquish the control that keeps us locked in our sexual prison. When we just “give up” we can begin to reach out for the help we need to reverse the affects of the lies we have believed.

Chapter 10

“Forgiveness”

We came to believe the love of God, **who forgave us and accepted us** in spite of all that we are and have done.

All we really want as children is acceptance. I couldn't tell anyone the things I had done until I knew I had found someone who could relate. My counselor knew, I felt I was to blame, for the way the “man” had kept coming back. He knew also that, at first, the things that were done to me felt good. He knew I felt guilty for enjoying them. He knew of the hatred that came after the pain of the later experiences. He knew I hated God for allowing them to happen. He knew these things because he could relate from his own experience. I also began to see that Jesus could relate (He was in all points tempted like as we are.) He could accept me because He felt my every pain and tear. He could give the hugs and touches I needed.

It was only after I began to realize that God was leading me, and “accepting me as I was”, that I could begin to feel any love for him. He knew I had given much more pain to others through acting out my homosexual feelings, and he forgave me. As I began to experience the forgiveness that he offered me, I felt like I could start to trust Him. The trust that leads to love comes after we see the demonstrations of forgiveness and acceptance. It is the divine plan. “We love him because he first loved us.” “He that is forgiven much loves much.” It does not matter what we have done in the past, once we find, in our relationship with God, the fatherly love and acceptance that every man seeks. We begin to want to let God wrap his love around us. Once we get past the “lie” “that God hates us”, we begin to grow past the arrested development that keeps us slaves to our false identity as a “homosexual”.

Chapter 11

“Purpose”

We learned to see **purpose in our suffering**, that our failed lives were under God’s control, who is able to bring good out of trouble.

Why should there be a purpose for suffering? Our purpose should be “to glorify God”. Once we begin to act out the lies we believe about ourselves, it would seem that God could not be glorified. There is an old saying, “if all else fails you can be used as a bad example.” No matter how we end up, we will be an example. Good or bad depends on our choices.

The closer I came to God through the process of change that went on in my life, the more I realized that God could, and would, use me to reach others with similar problems. God was in control. He was going to use my life to bring glory to Himself. If I failed He would use the failure to help someone else. If I made wrong choices He would guide me back to the place that would allow others to be benefited. In the giant puzzle that is going on around us God can put all the broken pieces into the right place and create a life picture for all those who are willing. The picture will be one of a kind, and as others see it they will be amazed that any good thing could come out of that life. That will give hope for them. They will be drawn to Him through the song of experience that we are able to sing.

Chapter 12

“Already Broken”

We came to believe that God had **already broken the power** of homosexuality and that He could therefore restore our true personhood

What a concept! I was not “born” homosexual. God had given me the assurance that He was in control of my every emotion. He had “already restored” the relationship with Himself through Christ, and He was in control. The inner obsessions began to lose control of my life. I began to practice claiming my true identity in Him. The realization that the change was “really happening” began to grow. The power of “the lie” was already broken. God was causing His plan to develop in my life. I started to “feel” like a new person. The hated homosexual reactions were beginning to disappear.

The knowledge that the “homosexual” person I had believed I was, is truly “dead in Christ” and that “I am” a “beloved son”, with a “father” that truly loves, provides a freedom that we have never experienced before. We no longer have to hide the real self because the real self is accepted and nourished by God. Our real personhood is restored in the victory that comes from trust in a power outside of our selves.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:8

Chapter 13

“The Lie”

We came to perceive that we had accepted a **lie** about ourselves, an illusion that had trapped us in a false identity.

From our earliest memory the “fact” that we are different is reinforced, and we believed that the things we feel are normal. Then we find that we are “different”. Our “normal” is not the same as others. When the difference becomes identified and we give it a name we “become” homosexual in our mind.

What a revelation when we find that everything we believed about ourselves, every “fact”, has been untrue. The feelings and emotions we “believed” have caused us to become a slave to our own obsession. Everything in our conscious mind rebels against the new knowledge. We feel that we are trapped. Our mind wants to act out the homosexual side, but we hate those actions.

With the new understanding comes a new hope. Perhaps I can change. If all the emotions I have are based on a “lie”, then just maybe, I can resume growth. Where my gender identity has been misinterpreted, by my own mind, the knowledge of our true identity in Christ can allow us to experience freedom to begin development where it was interrupted. When we discover the “lie”, we can, if we will, begin to allow God to finish his work in us. “***Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.***” John 8:32

Chapter 14

“Rediscover”

We learned to claim our true reality that as humankind, **we are part of God’s heterosexual creation** and that God calls us to **rediscover that identity in Him through Jesus Christ**, as our faith perceives Him

What is the truth? The truth is that we are, and always have been, a part of God’s heterosexual creation. We were not “born homosexual”. We were created heterosexual. When that belief begins to enter our subconscious mind, we can begin the process of rediscovering our true identity. **Christ is the one that allows this process to begin in us.** He is the one that will guide us through the minefield of rediscovery.

Be ye not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. Romans 12:2

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
2 Corinthians 5:7

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:
Philippians 1:6

Through the new relationship with Christ the rediscovery of our true creation as a part of God’s family is developed. Transformation can be achieved. The old nature is brought under control and we become changed.

Chapter 15

“Praise”

We resolved to entrust our lives to our loving God and **to live by faith, praising Him** for our new unseen identity, confident that it would become visible to us in God’s good time.

Of all the steps, “praise” is the one that gave me the most help. When I learned to “praise” God for the unseen victory the real changes began to happen. The habit of, “praise,” became an answer to every temptation. When I saw someone that attracted me I learned not to “beg for help”, but thank Him for the beauty of the person. I would praise God for the ability to “see” with new eyes. I would thank Him for the victory and way of escape that He had provided.

“Praise” is not a “technique” to get God to do something for me. It is the expression of the “belief” that God has already done the miracle for me. It is the true definition of faith. I may not feel the change in my mind, but I thank and praise for the completed work. I believe that any person, with any addiction, can experience the direct intervention of the Holy Spirit when he begins to “praise.”

God has provided a way of escape for any problem through the victory won by Christ at the cross. As we come to realize the true meaning of that gift, we will burst forth with praise. We can have no other response than “praise.” We can gain confidence and enter boldly into the presence of god through “praise.

*For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. **16Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*** Heb 4:15-16

Chapter 16

“Inventory”

As forgiven people free from condemnation, we made a **searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves**, determined to root out fear, hidden hostility, and contempt for the world.

Fear, hostility, and contempt, are some of the tools that the devil uses to keep us under his control. Anyone who has been caught up in addictions knows that, at any time you can explode with anger. The fear of the unknown is often greater than the desire to change. Contempt for any authority is expressed as a result of that fear.

When we find the forgiveness that comes in Christ and freedom from the condemnation we have felt for years, we realize that these problems must be rooted out of our lives. The process of examination that we need is brought to our consciousness, and we begin to understand that growth comes each time we face another of these symptoms.

To face these deeper problems takes fearless resolve. When we start the journey toward recovery from the homosexual life we lead, we do not even recognize that the sexual aspect of our problems is but the beginning of the changes we will experience.

The truth is that if we are immature in the sexual aspects of growth, we are also immature in many other areas. The Lord is bringing us to the place where we will be complete in him. This requires in-depth searching of our mind and discovering all that he would have us become. He will finish the work of recovery in our life, if we only let Him.

Chapter 17

“Admit”

We admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being **the exact nature of our wrongs** and humbly asked God to remove our defects of character.

Opening the deepest, darkest part of our sexual behavior to another person is perhaps the most fearful thing we can do. We have spent the greater part of our life hiding those things from everyone around us. It would be wonderful if we could “confess” our inner feelings to God leave it at that, but there is an inner need for acceptance and fellowship with others. By choosing carefully a person to confide the darkest emotions of our mind we begin the process of building trust in others.

The person we choose for this “bearing of our inner lives” must be someone that can relate to the emotions and action we feel. He must be able to listen without condemnation and offer strength when the reality of our confession begins to bring out emotions that we have never been able to express before. The process is one of releasing the hidden part of our mind and freeing the soul from a lifetime of shame. It is not easy. Our mind will rebel. However as the worst in us is released, the peace that comes from not having to live a “lie” any longer will flood the mind and a feeling of joy such as you have never felt will fill your whole being.

confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:16 Healing comes with confession and trust, but choose carefully and prayerfully the person that you confide in.

Chapter 18

“Amends”

We willingly **made direct amends** wherever wise and possible to all people we had had harmed.

How do you make amends for the sexual sins that have ruled your life? Is it wise to open old wounds by seeking out old partners? These are important questions to face, and as we progress in the healing of our mind there will come a time when some of these people will be approached. The concept of making amends is important and in time the lord will lead you to the people that you need to ask for forgiveness. These people are the ones you have hurt through your irresponsible actions. They may be your spouse or parents. Whoever they are you will begin to feel the need to approach them and God will provide that way of approach.

A major consideration when working this step is to determine if the person will be helped by your attempt or will there be greater harm? The only way to know which people to go to is for you to depend on God to lead. This sounds like a way to avoid the pain that you would face by direct contact, but if Christ never did anything to openly hurt or condemn others we need to be very careful to do the same. God will reveal to you those that it is “wise and possible” to approach.

When we do go to ask forgiveness we sometimes tend to blame those that have been an intimate part of our life for the problems we have. This is not a time for blame! It is a time for cleansing. Cleansing comes from admitting the wrong and taking responsibility for the hurt we have inflicted on others.

Chapter 19

“Order from Disaster”

We determined **to live no longer in fear of the world**, believing that God’s victorious control turns all that is against us into our favor, bringing advantage out of sorrow and order from disaster

Perfect love casts out fear. We have been afraid of “discovery” our whole life. Every move we make is calculated to avoid some calamity and as we grow more reclusive the disasters of life seem to compound.

When we discover the love that is ours in Christ, and we experience forgiveness that comes with each new admission of sin, we begin to realize that the God who controls all things, can indeed cause every part of our life to become controlled. Every horrible mess that we make can be turned to his glory.

As forgiveness is experienced the “Love” that we have been unable to feel in the past begins to flow like a river from our heart. We do not have to be afraid of the world or it’s hatreds any more. We begin to see that there is a plan in effect that is going to allow us to have complete freedom from the worst of our fears. God is turning every sorrow into advantage and bringing good out of every disaster of our life.

¹⁶And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.¹⁷Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸*There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.* ¹⁹*We love him, because he first loved us.* 1 John 4:16-19

Chapter 20

“Relationships”

We determined **to mature in our relationships with men and women**, learning the meaning of a partnership of equals, seeking neither dominance over people nor servile dependency on them.

A person who has grown up in homosexuality has never had the proper patterning to form good relationships. They either take a passive or servile role in the relationship or become extremely dominant. Neither of these types of relationship is healthy. We must begin to discover the types of relationship that allows us to become equal. The maturity that comes from watching and experiencing proper marriage relationships will, over time become part of our thinking. The correct relationship with normal men and women needs to be developed.

Our ability to hide our true feelings keeps us from trusting others or, we become easily obsessed with another person and become very dependant on them for every decision we make. We tend to smother those who form relationships with us. We have wanted to be accepted for so long. When it happens we go overboard and kill the relationship.

If we are married and began to desire change, we need to understand that our partner married us because of the way we were. When this change takes place they feel betrayed. We change so much that they may not be able to cope with the “new” you. It will take a great effort to properly realign our relationships. The woman that married us expected the passive person she married to remain passive. As we feel the new freedom we may become very dominant. We appear entirely different. It is only by prayer and dependence on God that we can restore proper relationships with those we love.

Chapter 21

“Growth”

We sought thorough confident praying, and the wisdom of Scripture for **an ongoing growth in our relationship with God** and a humble acceptance of His guidance for our lives.

We wanted a fathers’ love. We want to have complete change in our life. The thing we very often don’t want is for God or anyone else to “make” us “have” to do anything. We still try to retain control. We say, “God do it my way.” We must develop trust!

It is by confident prayer, the prayer that gives “praise”, that we begin to grow in our relationship with God. Studying scripture is the best way to gain confidence in our quest for strength. Every day we try to release those things that hold us as slaves to our old life. That ability to release only comes as we become more deeply grounded in the word of God. Each day we must drink more deeply from the source of wisdom.

All these words sound hollow until we find the ability to let God control our lives. It’s one thing to say, we humbly accept God, but the reality is that it is only by His power that we can accept. We don’t have the smallest ability on our own to control the old desires in our life. We have to just be willing to let God do it all. Through prayer, confident prayer, and study of his word we find new insights, (wisdom) we learn to grow. The humility that is required develops from facing the failures encountered when we try to “do” instead of “letting thy will be done.” We only begin to understand and grow, when we allow ourselves to absorb, through the light of prayer and scripture, the knowledge he sends us.

Chapter 22

“Outreach”

Having had a spiritual awakening, we tried **to carry this message** to homosexual people with a love that demands nothing and to practice these steps in all our lives’ activities, as far as lies within us.

Awake spiritually! Praise God! The desire begins to come to share the wonderful news, that “change is possible,” with others. It is my belief that God will bring those who need help directly to us. He will lead us, and place us where we can give hope to those that are ready to accept the possibilities that He has for them. It is His power, and His alone, that will enable us to share.

We simply, have to be willing to carry the message. It is not our duty to try to force anyone into something that they are not ready to accept. It is our responsibility to reach out in love. We understand better than anyone that the concept of acceptance is the key to growth. We need not demand, condemn, threaten with hell-fire, or do anything else that will only harden the mind of those that need our help.

All we need to do is explain the differences that those around us see in our lives. The presentation, by example, of our new found freedom, will draw those to us that God would heal. God will work in his own way to bring others to Himself. We are simply the humble people that, can from experience, proclaim his power to those that, until now, have had absolutely no hope of breaking the chains of the “lie”. We can full fill our true purpose in life. **WE CAN BRING GLORY TO OUR “FATHER”.**

Can Homosexuals Change?

© Copyright held by H.A.F.S.

Used with permission

Can Homosexuals Change? For at least three decades, competent mental health professionals have suggested that the false notion that homosexuality is unchangeable is a major stumbling block to recovery. **“The homosexual’s real enemy is ... his ignorance of the possibility that he can be helped, plus his psychic masochism which leads him to shun treatment.”** [Edmund Bergler, *Homosexuality: Disease or way of Life?*, (New York: Collier Books, 1962), p227]. “The major challenge in treating homosexuality from the point of view of the patient’s resistance has, of course, been the misconception that the disorder is innate or inborn.” [Charles W. Socarides, “Homosexuality,” *American Handbook of Psychiatry* second edition, volume 3, edited by Silvano Arieti and Eugene B. Brody, (New York: Basic Books, Inc., 1974), p. 309]. “The homosexually inclined, even if they are in principle willing to change, initially have serious doubts whether there are realistic chances of a profound improvement. These are periodically returning doubts, notwithstanding clearly observable progress, and they only die away when the change in feelings has become much more obvious Hope and faith are excellent barriers to these harmful thoughts that are a drain on the person’s enthusiasm and energy.” [Gerard van den Aardweg, *Homosexuality and Hope: A psychologist Talks About Treatment and Change*, (Ann Arbor, MI: Servant Books, 1986), p. 89]. If such doubts and fears have discouraged you in your search for freedom, please consider carefully the answer to these two questions: “Why homosexuality?” and “Can we change? ”Why? Why? That is a question that has haunted many of us for years. Why? Do we have homosexual feelings because of some abnormality in our genes or hormones or is this a psychological matter?

A Physical Problem?

Have our genes and hormones made us homosexual? Some of us have tried to maintain that, but there is little evidence to support such views. Thus after reviewing the scientific studies on genetics and homosexuality, Masters and Johnson concluded, “ ... The genetic theory of homosexuality has generally been discarded today.” [William H. Masters, Virginia E. Johnson and Robert C. Kolodny, *Human Sexuality* second edition, (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1985), p.411,412] DR. C.A. Tripp summarises the scientific experience regarding hormones and homosexuality as follows: “A number of clinicians have seen fit over the years to run their own experiments by administering testosterone both to effeminate and to ordinary homosexuals. The results have been consistent: When there were any behavioural changes at all, the subjects became more like themselves than ever. Their sex drives were usually increased and sometimes their effeminate mannerisms as well (when they had any), but there were never any directional changes in their sexual interests. From these experiments ... it has become abundantly clear that the sex hormones play a considerable role in powering human sexuality, but they do not control the direction of it.” [C.A. Tripp, *The Homosexual Matrix* , (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1975), p. 12] More recently some have argued that the problem lies in our prenatal hormones. They suggest that stress during pregnancy may alter the production of sex hormones reaching the brain of the fetus, thus affecting sexual orientation. Here too, however, the available evidence is against the theory. Thus, researchers have found that “in the majority of intersex patients with known hormone abnormalities, the sexual orientation follows the sex of rearing. Consequently, we have to assume that prenatal hormone conditions by themselves do not rigidly determine sexual orientation.” [A. A. Ehrhardt and H.F.L. Meyer-Bahlburg, “Effects of Prenatal Hormones on Gender-Related Behaviour,” *Science*, (March 20 1981), p. 1316] “The available data ... suggest that sexual orientation ... is based on social learning rather than hormones.” (idem.) Dr. Judd Marmor reported on the

work of Richard Green who, “In a long series of studies of boys who showed pronounced effeminate behaviour in childhood, has demonstrated that although more than half of these boys do become homosexual, a substantial minority of them do not. This indicates that gender-discordant children are not born homosexual, but rather are born with certain behavioural tendencies that, given contributory environmental factors, can predispose them toward homosexual behaviour. Thus, a little boy whose behaviour is effeminate, who does not like competitive athletics, and who prefers music and art, may be disappointing to a macho father, who tends to reject the boy and distance himself from him. The mother may respond by over-protecting her son. Such reactions disturb the boy’s capacity to identify positively with his father and cause him to overidentify with his mother. He may ultimately then develop homosexual erotic responses which are reinforced by later experiences.” [Judd Marmor, “Homosexuality: Nature vs. Nurture,” *The Harvard Mental Health Letter*, (October 1985), p. 6] Dr. John Money says, “With respect to orientation as homosexual or bisexual, there is no human evidence that prenatal hormonalization alone, independently of postnatal history, inexorably preordains either orientation. Rather, neonatal antecedents may facilitate a homosexual or bisexual orientation, provided the postnatal determinants in the social and communicational history are also facilitative.” [John Money, “Sin, Sickness, or Status? Homosexual Gender Identity and Psychoneuroendocrinology,” *American Psychologist* 42, no. 4 (April 1987), p. 398] And Dr. Earl D. Wilson writes, “The disputed evidence for physical causes of male homosexuality is even weaker when it comes to lesbianism.” [Earl D. Wilson, *Counselling and Homosexuality*, (Waco, TX: Word Books, 1988) p. 76]. Facts like these led John DeCecco, editor of the *Journal of Homosexuality* and a professor of psychology at San Francisco State University, to say, “The idea that people are born into one type of sexual behaviour is entirely foolish.”, he says, “Isn’t the result of a of a scientific consensus, but a political consensus by those eager to label people gay or straight. Homosexuality, he says, is ‘a behaviour, not a

condition,' and something that some people can and do change, just like they sometimes change other tastes and personality traits." [Kim Painter, "A Biological Theory for Sexual Preference," USA Today, (March 1, 1989), p. 4D]

Some will find these truths deeply disturbing. They rob us of some of our favourite excuses. We can no longer cry, "I can't help myself. I was born this way." These truths mean we have to take responsibility for our lives and our actions. In doing this, however, these truths give us the key to freedom. They show us that we are not the prisoners of cruel fate or faulty genes or hormones. There is hope for us! As Masters and Johnson put it, "When dealing with problems of sexual preference, it is vital that all health-care professionals bear in mind that the homosexual man or woman is basically a man or woman by genetic determination and is homosexually orientated by learned preference." [William H. Masters and Virginia E. Johnson, *Homosexuality in Perspective*, (Boston: Little, Brown and Company 1979, p. 217]. As Dr. Robert Kronemeyer has said, **"From my 25 years' experience as a clinical psychologist, I firmly believe that homosexuality is a learned response to early painful experiences and that it can be unlearned. For those homosexuals who are unhappy with their life and find effective therapy, it is 'curable.'** " [Robert Kronemeyer, *Overcoming Homosexuality*, (New York: Macmillan publishing Company, Inc., 1980), p. 7].

What Went Wrong?

If our problem is not physical, what has gone wrong? A number of clues have been discovered. In 1952, Dr. Irving Bieber began directing a research team in a nine year project studying male homosexuality. In all, 77 analysts, each a member of the Society of Medical Psychoanalysts, provided information on two patient samples consisting of 106 male homosexuals and a comparison group of 100 male homosexuals. The result was " ... the most authoritative study of its kind." [Arno Karlen, *Sexuality and Homosexuality: A New View*, (New York : W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1971),

p. 573]. “No one has ever gathered so much finely discriminating detail on so many homosexuals, treated in depth by so many doctors, and put through so many evaluations.” (ibid., p. 572,573). Dr. Bieber wrote, “We have come to the conclusion that a constructive, supportive, warmly-related father precludes the possibility of a homosexual son ” [Irving Bieber et al, *Homosexuality: A Psychoanalytic Study*, (New York: Basic Books, 1962) p. 303]. Another psychiatrist, after many years of study and practice treating male homosexuals, noted, “Homosexuals consistently describe the father either as a weak, shadowy, and distant figure or an angry, cold, or brutalising one.” [Charles W. Socarides, *Homosexuality is not Just an Alternative Life Style*,” *Male and Female: Christian Approaches to Sexuality* edited by Ruth Tiffany Barnhouse and Urban T. Holmes, III, (New York: The Seabury Press, 1976), p. 145]. Dr. Elizabeth Moberly received her Ph.D. in psychology from Oxford University for her study of homosexuality. She found “that the homosexual ... whether man or woman ... has suffered from some deficit in the relationship with the parent of the same sex; and that there is a corresponding drive to make good this deficit .. through the medium of same-sex, or ‘homosexual,’ relationships.” [Elizabeth Moberly, *Homosexuality: A New Christian Ethic*, (Greenwood, S.C.: Attic Press, 1983) p. 2].

Sharon Wegscheider, a certified alcoholism specialist, a family therapist, a member of Virginia Satir’s AVANTA Network and president of ONSITE, provides one illustration of how this can happen when she describes the patterns which appear in the family of the chemically dependent person. She describes one of the characters in this family as “the Lost Child.” “He becomes a loner, looking after his needs himself and staying out of everyone’s way ...” {Sharon Wegscheider, *Another Chance: Hope and Health for the Alcoholic Family*, (Palo Alto, CA: Science and Behavior Books, Inc., 1981), p. 127]. “Since he has never experienced warm, human closeness, he is not prepared to make friends and engage in the social give and take of day-to-day school contacts. Yet in the midst of the crowd, withdrawing into himself leaves him feeling lonely,

different, inept.” (ibid., p. 129,130). “Each human being learns what it means to be a man or a woman from the adults in his or her childhood family. The same-sex parent provides a lasting model of what it is to be, and the other parent an object for his first important relationship with a person of the opposite sex. These are powerful teachings ... if they occur. The Lost Child, however, has never felt close to either of his parents; he is has been too insulated from them to experience this kind of learning. Consequently, he reaches puberty with no clear sense of his own sexual identity or how to relate in a healthy way with those of the opposite sex. As adolescent sexuality increasingly colours all aspects of the daily world he occupies, he is engulfed by yet another kind of confusion. True to his pattern, he withdraws. He rarely dates and in his loneliness suffers growing doubts about his own sexual normalcy.” (ibid. p. 136). Alcoholism and drug addiction are only two of many family experiences which can lead to confusion in sexual identity and sexual preference. Many things less severe than chemical dependency can result in a deficit in our relationship with our same-sex parent. A sensitive child can be easily hurt. My father was a fine man who had no problem with alcohol or drugs. He did, however, want me, his firstborn, to be exactly like he was ... strong, tough, a fighter, and a doctor. These were things God had not equipped me to be. I felt I was not what my father wanted and that he did not love me. So I put up a wall between us and missed the love I needed to develop a healthy gender identity. Had you asked about our relationship, I would have told you, “It’s fine.” But, if I was being complete, I would have added the revealing words, “but we’re not close.” Dr. Moberly suggests other situations which may cause difficulty: “1. The illness of the child, especially when this involves hospitalisation, i.e. a large measure of separation from parental care. 2. The illness of a parent. Even when this does not involve hospitalisation, it may mark a period of inability to care for the young child, which may in turn affect the child’s capacity for attachment to the parent. 3. The birth of a sibling, especially when this involves the mother’s absence due to hospitalisation, or a

conspicuous lessening in the amount of care she gives to the child she has already. 4. The temporary, prolonged, or permanent absence of a parent. 5. The separation or divorce of the parents. 6. The death of a parent. 7. Adoption, fostering, or living in an orphanage. 8. Being brought up by a succession of nurses, governesses, etc., i.e. a constantly changing succession of 'parental' figures." [Elizabeth Moberly, *Psychogenesis: The Early Development of Gender Identity*, (London: Routledge & Kegan Paul Limited, 1983), p. 78]. While such experiences do not always result in homosexual feelings, they can, in a sensitive child, cause a hurt which leads to such problems. As we consider these matters, it is important to remember that we are not looking for someone to blame. We are trying to understand the causes of our struggle and learn what we can do to resolve them. As long as we blame others for our problems, we will think like victims and remain forever bound by our problems. When we accept responsibility, not for what happened in our childhood, but for how we respond to it now, we are in a position of strength. If our parents made mistakes with us (probably the same mistakes their parents made with them), we who know our folly and need of forgiveness can learn to forgive them. As we clear away the debris of the past, we are free to choose to grow, to change, to build a better life. How, then, did our struggle develop? To develop in a healthy way, a child needs love from its parent or a consistent parent substitute of the same sex. "Needs for love from, dependency on, and identification with, the parent of the same sex are met through the child's attachment to the parent. If, however, the attachment is disrupted, the needs that are normally met through the medium of such an attachment remain unmet." (Moberly, *Homosexuality: A New Christian Ethic*, op. cit., p. 5). If these needs go unmet over a period of time, the child develops mixed and contradictory feelings toward its same-sex parent and tries, through a process of detachment, to survive without the love he or she deeply needs. The emotionally hurt youngster says of the same-sex parent, "I don't want to be like you." These feelings are transferred to all members of the same sex so that the person experiences at the same

time a deep desire for intimacy with persons of the same sex and a strong desire to flee such intimacy. When puberty comes, these feelings get confused with erotic intimacy and a homosexual struggle begins. Homosexual behaviour is a mistaken attempt to meet a real need for non-sexual, same-sex, parent-child love. This need has been falsely understood as sexual, but homosexual behaviour actually lessens the possibility of getting the real needs met because it involves guilt, deepens feelings of inferiority, and increases the ambivalence experienced in same-sex relating. As Dr. Earl D. Wilson has noted, "The anonymous sex which many homosexuals experience seems only to strengthen the reparative urge and leave the person more desperate." (Wilson, op. cit. p. 59). All this reduces a person's ability to have those healthy relationships with members of the same sex which are vital to coming to freedom from homosexuality. As Dr. Moberly put it: "Homosexuality is the kind of problem that needs to be solved through relationships. The solution of same-sex deficits is to be sought through the medium of .. non-sexual relationships with members of the same sex. It is the provision of good same-sex relationships that helps meet unmet same-sex needs, heals defects in the relational capacity, and in this way forwards the healing process." (Moberly, *Homosexuality: A New Christian Ethic*, op. cit., p. 42). A good same-sex counsellor may also be needed to help work through deep-seated hurts from the past.

Can I Change?

Someone may be saying, "I grant you that my problem is not physical but psychological, but I still don't feel that there is any hope for me. Who says change is possible?"

The Bible

The Bible says,

"Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual

offenders 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 emphasis ours).

These words, which at first seem so threatening, are actually some of the sweetest words in the Bible to men and women with a homosexual struggle who understand them aright. True, they mention homosexuality among the sins which, if not repented of, bar people from the Kingdom of God. While God does not hold us accountable for the things that happened to us in childhood which brought on our struggle, He does hold us responsible, like everyone else, to face our problems, to reach out to Him and to His people for help, and to work through our difficulties by His grace. We draw comfort from the fact that homosexuality is not listed first here as if it was the worst of sins, nor is it mentioned last as if it was unspeakable. It is listed in the middle of this catalogue along with sins like greed and slander, no better, but no worse than the other misdeeds. And we find tremendous encouragement here. Those words “and such WERE some of you” tell us that some early believers had struggled with homosexuality and had found forgiveness and freedom! ***Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever*** (Hebrews 13:8). Therefore the One who delivered them can also forgive and free us. We have a solid hope drawn from God’s own Word!

Science Dr. Reuben Fine, Director of the New York Center for Psychoanalytic Training, stated, “I have recently had occasion to review the results of psychotherapy with homosexuals, and been surprised by the findings. It is paradoxical that even though the politically active homosexual group denies the possibility of change, all studies from the Schrenck-Notzing on have found positive effects, virtually regardless of the kind of treatment used.” [Reuben Fine, “Psychoanalytic Theory, Male and Female Homosexuality: Psychological Approaches edited by Louis

Diamant, (Washington, D.C.: Hemisphere Publishing Corporation, 1987), p. 84]. “Whether with hypnosis ..., psychoanalysis of any variety, educative psychotherapy, behaviour therapy, and/or simple educational procedures, a considerable percentage of overt homosexuals became heterosexual. If the patients are motivated, whatever procedure is adopted, a large percentage will give up their homosexuality. In this connection public information is of the greatest importance. The misinformation spread by certain circles that ‘homosexuality is untreatable by psychotherapy’ does incalculable harm to thousands of men and women.” (ibid., p. 85,86). Experience some years back, an American musician writing under the pseudonym of William Aaron described his homosexual life and his change to heterosexuality. He wrote, “For twenty years I was a homosexual: absolutely and nothing but I enjoyed sex with men, enjoyed it thoroughly and the more the better. The very thought of sex with a woman was abhorrent and frightening. Today, years away from all of that .. I am functioning heterosexually and enjoying it.” [William Aaron, *Straight: A heterosexual Talks about His Homosexual Past*, (Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1972), p. 14f]. “I like being married: it gives me a feeling of stability and rightness that I never had before I like being a father; it is a rich emotional experience.” (idem.) He continues, “If you’re homosexual and unhappy about it, believe me you don’t have to stay that way. Cut your ties with the old life and get yourself reconditioned If you need help, get help. But don’t sit around saying, “Poor me, here I am stuck with being a faggot.” You don’t need to be stuck with it, any more than you need to be stuck with alcoholism or pills, with acrophobia or xenophobia, or with any other unwelcome response or habit pattern. Discover your endless potential for change and development.” (ibid., p.211).

Many others can relate their freedom from their homosexual habit, and so can you! Homosexuals Anonymous (H.A.) is an interdenominational Christian fellowship of men and women who have chosen to help each other live free from homosexuality. If we can be of help, please write or call us at any of the address below. We will help in any way we can.

HA, PO Box 7881, READING, U.S.A

© Copyright held by H.A.F.S.

How did Homosexuals Anonymous Begin?

Homosexuals Anonymous began in November of 1980 as a result of two men, Colin, a former minister, and Doug, a former school principal, pooling their ideas on how to pass on to others what they had experienced in recovery from homosexuality. Colin, who had kept a five-year journal of his growth, analyzed the principles of that growth with helpful evaluation from Doug. From this analysis the 14 Steps of Homosexuals Anonymous (H.A.) were born. Nine of the steps come from Colin's journals and five of the steps are modified from Alcoholics Anonymous.

“The Finishing Room”

“The Finishing Room” project is *designed to encourage* interaction between members in a way that encourages them to *gain vic - tory* in any area of life that seem to be controlling or hampering Christian growth. This meeting will encourage the growth of members in areas of worship, praise, forgiveness, repentance, confession and restoration. Through the working of the “Spirit” an atmosphere of *healing can enter the group and a revival of the work of God in life will be accomplished*. As real miracles take place in the lives of members, the ability of the group to perform its role of reaching out to others will increase.

MEETING OUTLINE

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Music of praise | 15 min. |
| 2. Introductions | 5 min. |
| 3. Concepts reading | 2 min. |
| 4. Single concept instruction | 15 min. |
| 5. Interaction | 30 min. |
| 6. Praise | 15 min. |

Dismiss

GROUP GUIDELINES

Discussion will center on the simple faith “concepts” outlined in scripture that form the basis for healing from any unwanted behavior.

The group is truly non-denominational and no particular church agenda should be promoted other than growth and healing for its’ members.

Members are encouraged to attend their home churches and not use the group as a replacement for corporate worship.

The group may be facilitated by any person that has completed an approved course of instruction in the basic “concepts” as established by the “Finishing Room” program.

The meeting attendance is by invitation after a screening process and will be conducted in locations that will safeguard the identity of members. All members will agree to hold in strict confidence the location, content and discussions held at those meetings.

The Finishing Room

Mission: *To allow a special time for God to complete His work of “restoration” in us through group interaction.*

Text: “He that began a good work in you will finish it.”

Phil 1:6

Concepts:

“God is the author and finisher of our faith.” We can claim no part of the glory.

“The finisher” **reveals the things in our lives that need “finishing”** when the time is right to accomplish the work.

“The finisher” **shows us the “lie”** that ensnares us.

“The finisher” **reveals the “truth”** that will set us free and gives us understanding.

“The finisher” **applies that “truth”** to our everyday lives as “He” sets us free.

“The finisher” **sees and accepts us as if we were complete** during the entire process of restoration.

“The finishing” **restores choice and ends bondage** in all areas of our life.

“The finishing” **brings “SHARING”**

“The finishing” **brings “PRAISE”**

“The finishing” **brings “PEACE”**

“No one can change orientation from “gay” to “straight”.
That statement is a “LIE”!

Doug M. the author of this book leads you through a very basic study of SSA and a simple examination of the concept, that it is that “Lie” that keeps the desired change from taking place in those who would be most able to achieve it.

After living that “Lie” for over twenty-five years He tells of the discovery that led him to **find the “TRUTH” of healing and renewal from homosexuality.**

He has been living the truth of change and renewal for another twenty-five years. Married, father of three and grandfather He shares the joy of knowing that all things are possible and healing in this area is “reality.”

Co-founder of a nationally known recovery group, He has seen and known, from experience, that reality in countless others.

**For more Information:
Acceptance Fellowship Ministries
www.acceptancefellowship.org**

