

# 真理使人自由 爱里没有惧怕

## 〈真爱同行牧养约章〉

### 前言

现代社会对同性恋各有立场及见解。我们期盼无论什么情况，众教会皆以基督的爱、真理及恩典，回应同性恋议题。我们承认教会在牧养及关顾有「同性性倾向」<sup>1</sup>的信徒上，有不足及亏欠之处。我们应当谦卑，寻求体谅，认识有「同性性倾向」信徒的情况及需要，继续学习及实践这方面的牧养服事。

同性恋成因复杂，全部或绝对出自天生的说法，未曾得到科学证明，而研究显示后天因素有重要的影响；相关研究仍在进行中，未有定论。对部分人而言，同性性倾向并非他们的选择，教会须多加体恤，但同性恋者个人有责任决定如何回应这种性倾向。就如异性恋者有不合宜的性冲动时，也该约束自己，拒绝有进一步行为而顺服上帝。教会宜区分「同性性倾向」和「同性性行为」——拥有一种渴慕倾向，不等于必定要做出那些行为。当然若不倚靠上帝的恩典，及运用自己的意志克制，倾向就自然发展成行为，但两者仍有分别，圣经主要反对的是「同性性行为」。

对于有同性性倾向的人士，我们应当尊重当事人的个人意愿，不勉强他们寻找辅导及成长改变；但教会也要本于爱、真理及恩典的原则教导牧养，鼓励他们活出上帝的标准及全人各方面成长，并持守圣洁的生命。

### 牧养约章

以下牧养约章，基于圣经原则及牧养经验而制定，期望作为教会的指引及参考：

1. 我们认信上帝按自己形像造男造女，性别身份有上帝创造的秩序及美意；一男一女婚姻内的性关系，才是上帝所喜悦及赐福。
2. 我们认信基督耶稣关爱世上每一个人，不论他们的性倾向；我们承认世人皆有罪，都有软弱，须要悔改、生命更新，不论性倾向为何，唯靠基督才找到新生命。
3. 我们认信圣灵内住的信徒生命，仍会充满挣扎。成圣历程中，不论任何人，皆面对各种试探，也有责任倚靠上帝的恩典活出圣洁。我们不可单单因为「同性性倾向」的缘故，在教会生活上拒绝任何人。
4. 我们鼓励教会要温柔、耐心地关爱及牧养有「同性性倾向」挣扎的信徒。教会要不离不弃的贴身牧养，深入关顾，认识及理解他们的需要及挣扎，并鼓励他们行在上帝的爱和真理之中。
5. 我们鼓励教会要建立尊重的气氛及安全的环境，教导弟兄姊妹接纳「同性性倾向」挣扎者，与他们同行，在爱中一同追求信仰，互相守望，彼此勉励，寻求成长，活出符合上帝心意的生活。
6. 我们相信对于持续选择有「同性性行为」，且拒绝追求圣洁生活的信徒，他们未有行在真理之内，教会有属灵的权责关注跟进，为要在爱中挽回，使他们在爱里成长。

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<sup>1</sup> 「同性性倾向」指个人在情感及性方面，持续地受同性吸引。

7. 我们期望更多堂会及机构，以真理和爱心接待及牧养有「同性性倾向」的信徒。他们感到自己的情况与信仰有冲突，因而寻求协助。从过往很多例子，我们看到适切的牧养，可以帮助他们经历生命成长及全人转化。
8. 我们期望教会关注有「同性性倾向」人士的福音需要，他们皆为上帝所爱，是福音未得之民。对于慕道但未清楚认识圣经真理的同性恋者，教会不应排斥，须以爱心接待，让他们认识福音，耐心等待他们在爱中逐渐经历上帝更新的大能。

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### **联署方法：**

我们诚意邀请各宗派、堂会、机构、教牧同工、以及全港信徒参与及广传是次联署。请到以下网址下载联署表格或于网上联署，联署结果会于网上公布。

如有问题请联络秘书处：香港性文化学会（电话：3165-1858）

联署网址：[www.scs.org.hk/cosign](http://www.scs.org.hk/cosign)



# **< Walking Together In True Love >**

## **Joint Declaration on Pastoral Charter**

### **Foreword**

In this modern society, people have different stands and views on the issue of homosexuality. We hope that all churches, at all times and under all circumstances, will respond to this issue with Christ's love, truth and grace. We admit that the Church might not have done enough in pastoring and caring for the believers with same-sex orientation. We should be humble, seek to understand and learn more about the difficulties and needs of the believers with same-sex orientation, as well as continue to learn how we can better pastor them and put our belief into practice.

The causes of homosexuality are complex; and to claim it is wholly and entirely inborn is without scientific justification. Research, however, has shown that post-natal factors have significant influence though there is yet a conclusion for it is still underway. To some people, same-sex orientation is not their choice; and therefore the Church has to be more understanding towards them. However, it is the responsibility of the individual to decide how to respond to his/her orientation. Heterosexuals and homosexuals alike, we are all called to be obedient to God, not to any inappropriate sexual impulses that we might have. The Church should make differentiation between same-sex orientation (SSO) and same-sex activity (SSA); and clearly understand that having a desire for the same sex does not mean acting according to the desires. Of course, without relying on God's grace and restraining with one's own will, same-sex orientation will naturally develop into same-sex activity. However, there is still a difference between the two; and the Bible is basically against same-sex activity.

We should respect the wish of the people with same-sex orientation, and should not force them to seek counseling or to change. On the other hand, the Church must teach and pastor them with love, truth and grace; and encourage them to live a pure and holy life in which their growth in all areas adhere to the standard of God.

### **Pastoral Charter**

The following Pastoral Charter is based on biblical principles and pastoral experiences; and we hope they will become the guidelines and reference of the Church:

1. We confess that God created male and female in His image. Sexual identity is created by God according to His plan and intention. Sexual relationship between a male and a female, in a marriage, is pleasing to and is blessed by God.
2. We confess that Christ Jesus loves every individual in this world, regardless of his/her sexual orientation. We confess that, in our weaknesses, all have sinned, and need to repent and to be born again. Regardless of sexual orientation, it is only through Christ that we can have new life.

3. We confess that even in a spirit-filled Christian life, there is still strife. In the sanctification process, no matter who we are, we still face all sorts of temptations, and we have the responsibility to rely on God so as to live a holy life. We should not reject anyone in the church just because of his/her same-sex attraction.

4. We encourage churches to care for and pastor those struggling with same-sex orientation, with gentleness and patience. The church must pastor closely with perseverance and care; understand and comprehend their needs and struggles; and encourage them to walk in God's love and truth.

5. We encourage churches to establish a respectful atmosphere and a safe environment; teach brothers and sisters to be accepting to those struggling with same-sex orientation; walk with one another in love and faith; watch over and encourage each other as well as seek to grow and live a life which is pleasing to God.

6. We believe that believers who continue to engage in same-sex activity, and refuse to pursue a holy life, are not walking in truth. The Church has spiritual authority and responsibility to follow up with care, in order to regain them in love, enabling them to grow in love.

7. We hope that there will be more churches and organizations who will accept and pastor believers with same-sex orientation in truth and love. Having realized that their condition conflicts with their faith, they are willing to seek help. From past examples, we can see that appropriate pastoring can lead them to experience personal growth and transformation.

8. We hope that churches will care about the spiritual needs of people with same-sex orientation. They are also loved by God, and intended for salvation. For those who seek to know more, but have not understood biblical truths, the church should not reject them, but rather accept them with love, let them know the gospel, and wait patiently while they gradually experience God's renewing power in His love.

**If there is any inconsistency or ambiguity between the Chinese version and the English version, the Chinese version shall prevail.**