

An abstract, textured background featuring swirling patterns of orange, yellow, green, and blue, resembling liquid or paint splatters. The text "MESSY GRACE" is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters.

MESSY GRACE

CALEB KALTENBACH

**SATURDAY, NOV. 20, 2016
FOUNDATIONS SEMINAR**



When Caleb Kaltenbach was a toddler, his parents divorced and independently came out of the closet as a gay man and a lesbian. As a result, Caleb was lovingly raised in the LGBT community. He attended LGBT parties with his mother and partner, marched in pride parades...and experienced hatred and bitterness from Christians. To his enduring surprise, Caleb became a Christian and a pastor as a young adult.

Caleb Kaltenbach is the Lead Pastor at Discovery Church in Simi Valley, CA. Raised in the LGBT community, he was exposed to how some Christians treated the LGBT community, and grew to hate Christians. In high school, he joined a Bible study to disprove the Bible, but ended up following Jesus instead. Later, his parents followed Jesus too. This is the subject of his first book, "Messy Grace" --holding on to the truth of God's Word while being filled with grace. Caleb is a graduate of Ozark Christian College, Talbot School of Theology (Biola University), and is finishing his doctorate at Dallas Theological Seminary. He speaks widely on the subjects of reconciliation, faith, diversity, and grace/truth. Caleb and his wife, Amy, reside in Southern California with their two kids.

Through a revealing personal story, biblical teaching, and practical solutions, Caleb's non-judgmental voice and life-tested counsel will appeal to people who understand that despite good intentions, some Christians have done great harm and we desperately need constructive answers.

Conference Agenda.

Messy Grace

*Studying the Principles That
Can Help You Love Anybody*

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| 8:30 - 9:00 | Check-in & Light Breakfast |
| 9:00 - 9:45 | Why Is Same-Sex Intimacy a Big Deal? |
| 9:45 - 9:55 | Break |
| 10:00 - 10:45 | The Power of Empathy |
| 10:45 - 10:55 | Break |
| 11:00 - 11:45 | How to Engage Those You Love |
| 11:45 - 11:55 | Break |
| 12:00-12:30 | People & All Things LGBTQ |
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I. Why Is Same-Sex Intimacy a Big Deal?

The Lord said to Moses, "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'I am the Lord your God. You must not do as they do in Egypt, where you used to live, and you must not do as they do in the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you. Do not follow their practices. You must obey my laws and be careful to follow my decrees. I am the Lord your God. Keep my decrees and laws, for the person who obeys them will live by them. I am the Lord. – Leviticus 18:1-5

A. God created the male/female relationship as a covenant.

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." – Genesis 1:26-28

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame. – Genesis 2:24-25

Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?"
"Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." – Matthew 19:3-6

Now for the matters you wrote about: "It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman." But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife. Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. I say this as a concession, not as a command. – I Corinthians 7:1-5

... submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband. – Ephesians 5:21-33

B. Same-sex intimacy is outside of God's design and is sin.

Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable. – Leviticus 18:22

'If a man has sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They are to be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads. – Leviticus 20:13

He expelled the male shrine prostitutes from the land and got rid of all the idols his ancestors had made. – 1 Kings 15:12

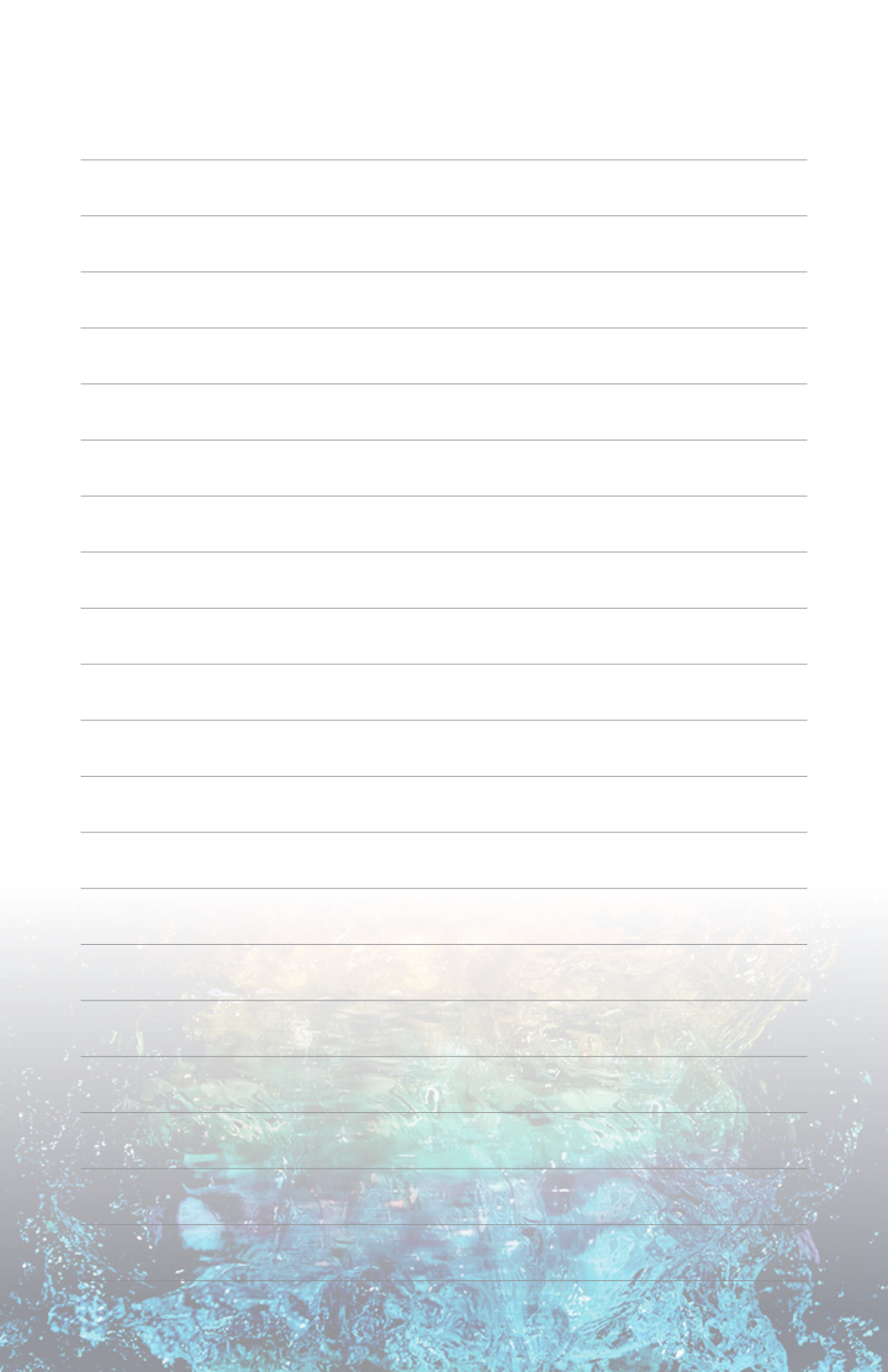
He rid the land of the rest of the male shrine prostitutes who remained there even after the reign of his father Asa. – 1 Kings 22:46

He also tore down the quarters of the male shrine prostitutes that were in the temple of the Lord, the quarters where women did weaving for Asherah. – 2 Kings 23:7

Now this was the sin of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and unconcerned; they did not help the poor and needy. They were haughty and did detestable things before me. Therefore I did away with them as you have seen. – Ezekial 16:49-50

Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error. – Romans 1:26-27

Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. – 1 Corinthians 6:9-10



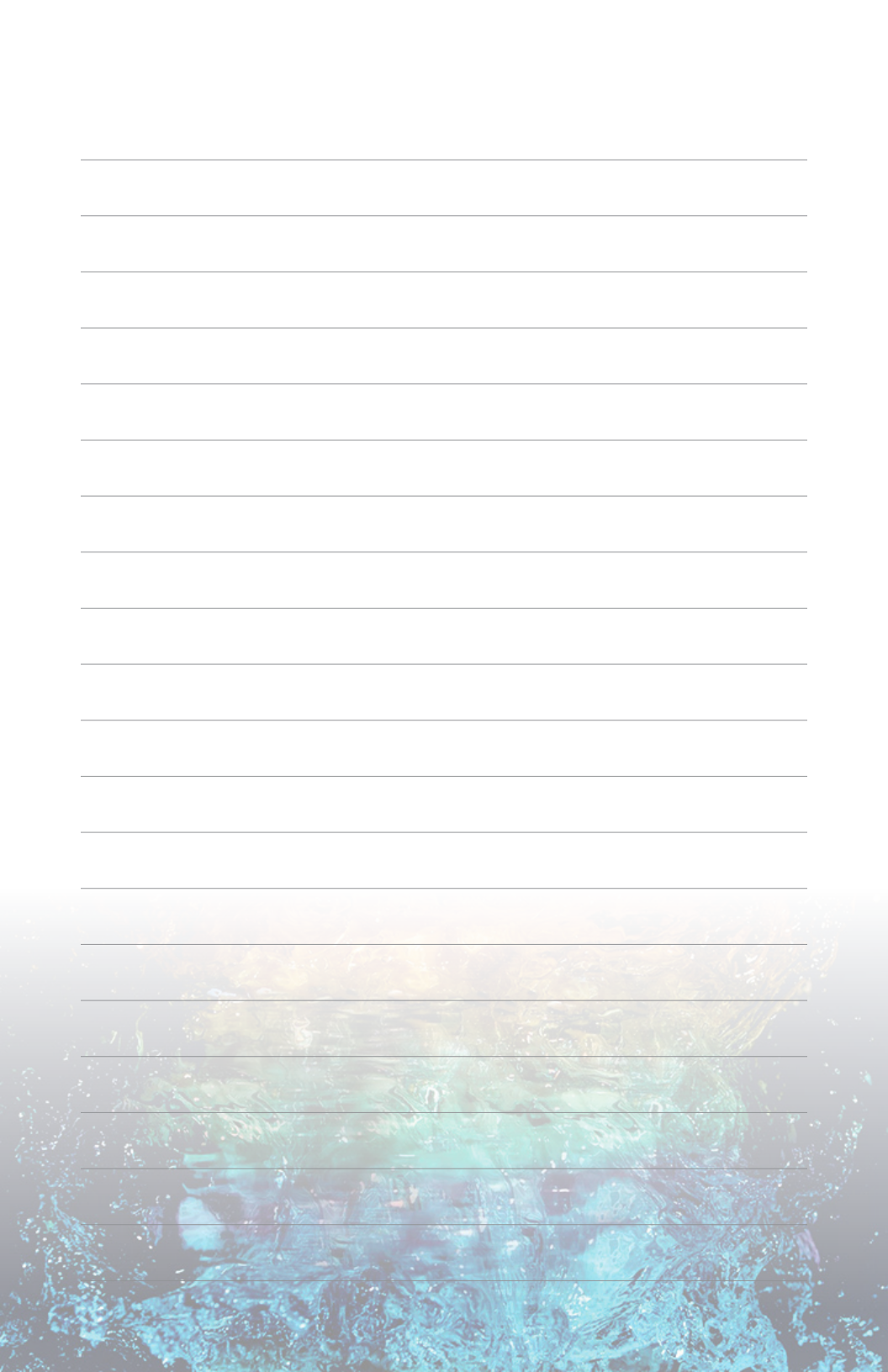
3 options for same-sex attracted people:

1. Be in a _____
2. Find someone _____
3. _____

We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me. – 1 Timothy 1:8-11

Why does Jesus seem silent on homosexuality?

1. In Matthew 19:1-12, Jesus defines marriage as _____
2. Find someone _____
3. The Greek word Jesus uses is an _____
4. The argument _____ is weak.
5. Homosexuality was not an _____ in Israel.



C. Marriage is a living illustration of Christ and His church—aka, a picture of the Gospel.

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

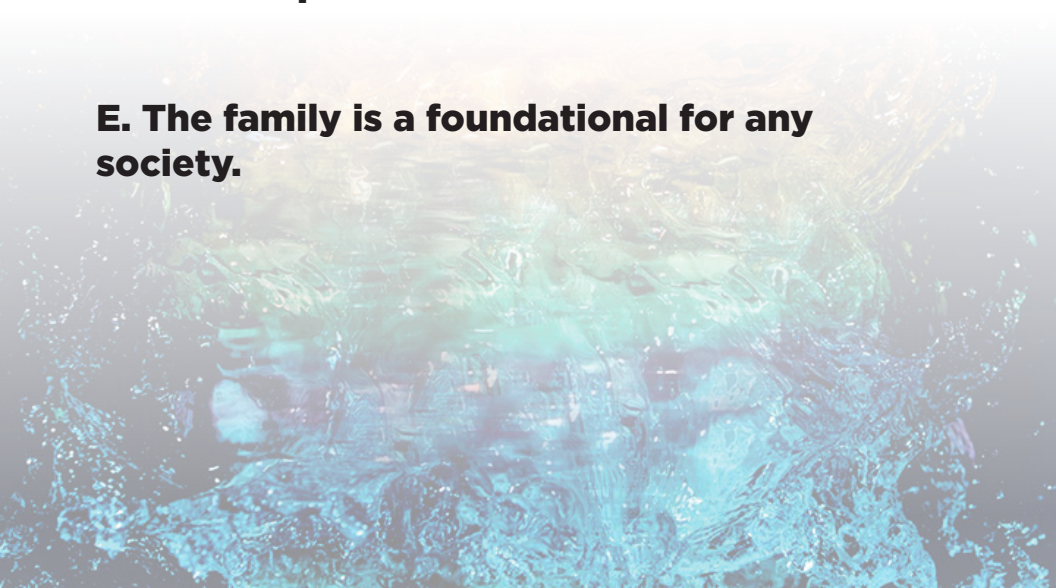
Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

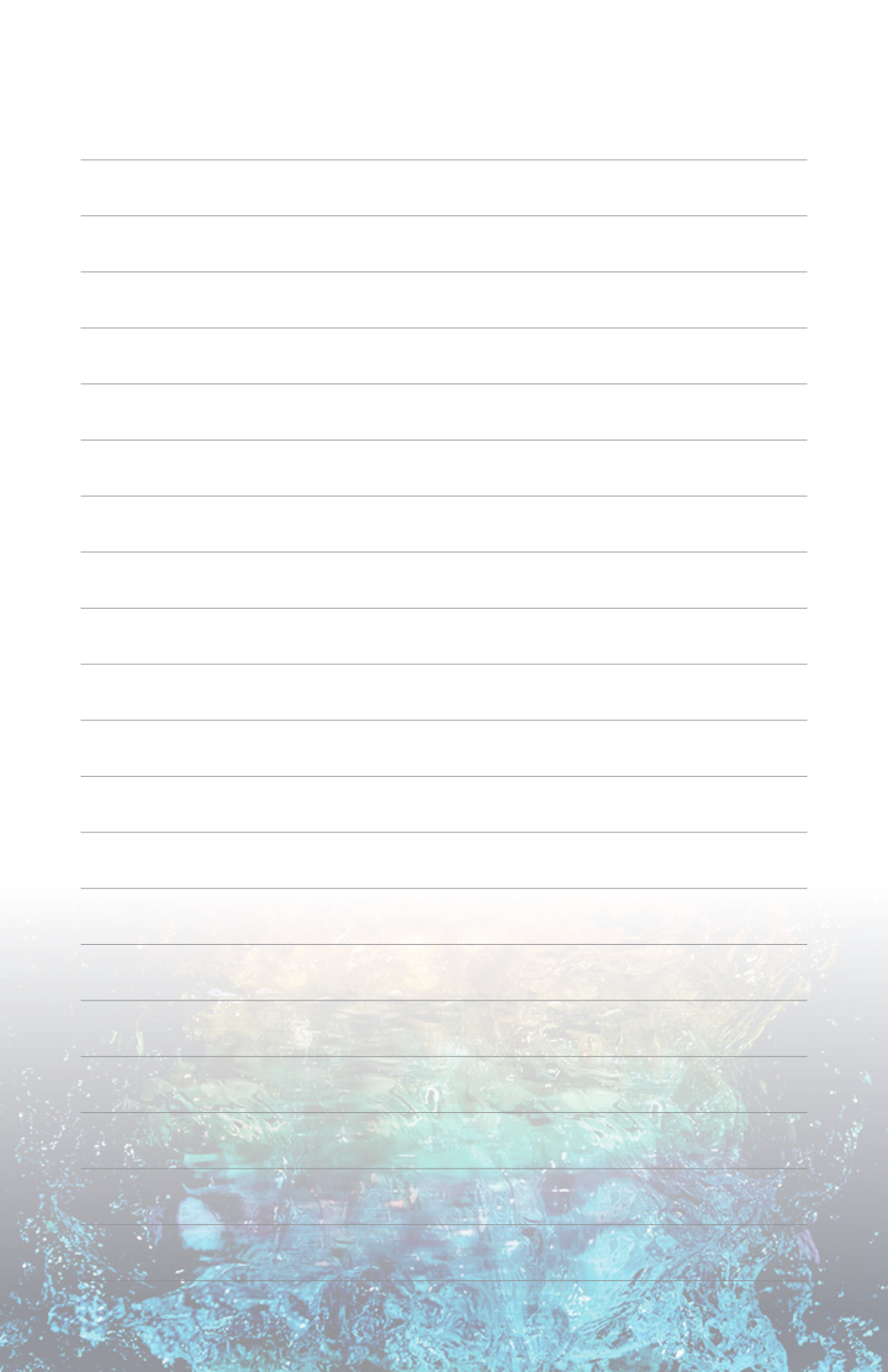
Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— for we are members of his body. “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

– Ephesians 5:21-33

D. God has set up the male/female relationship as a universal truth.

E. The family is a foundational for any society.





II. The Power of Empathy

There is _____ in our faith.

What examples of it do you see in Christian faith?

We need more _____!

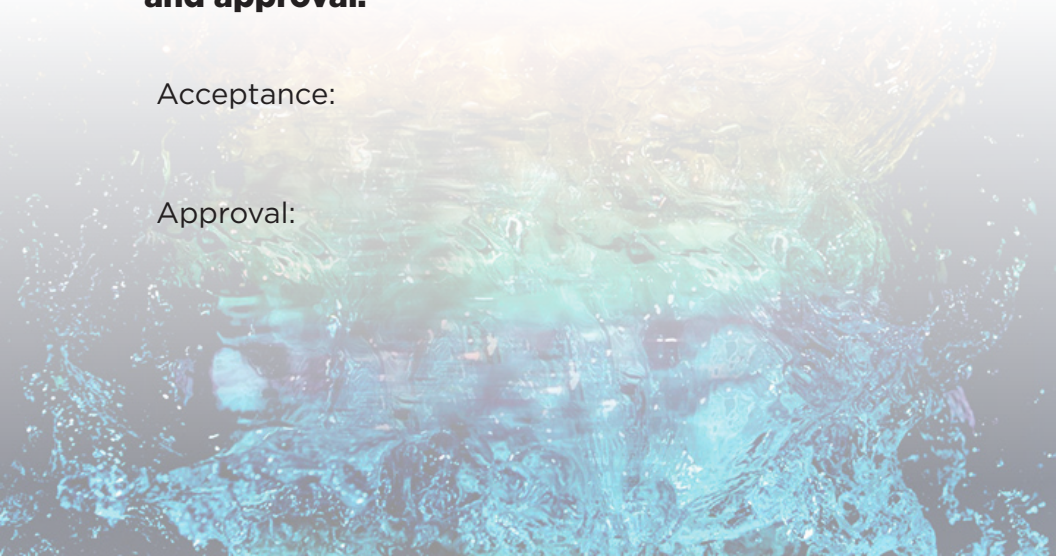
A. Theological convictions shouldn't be catalysts to treat someone less.

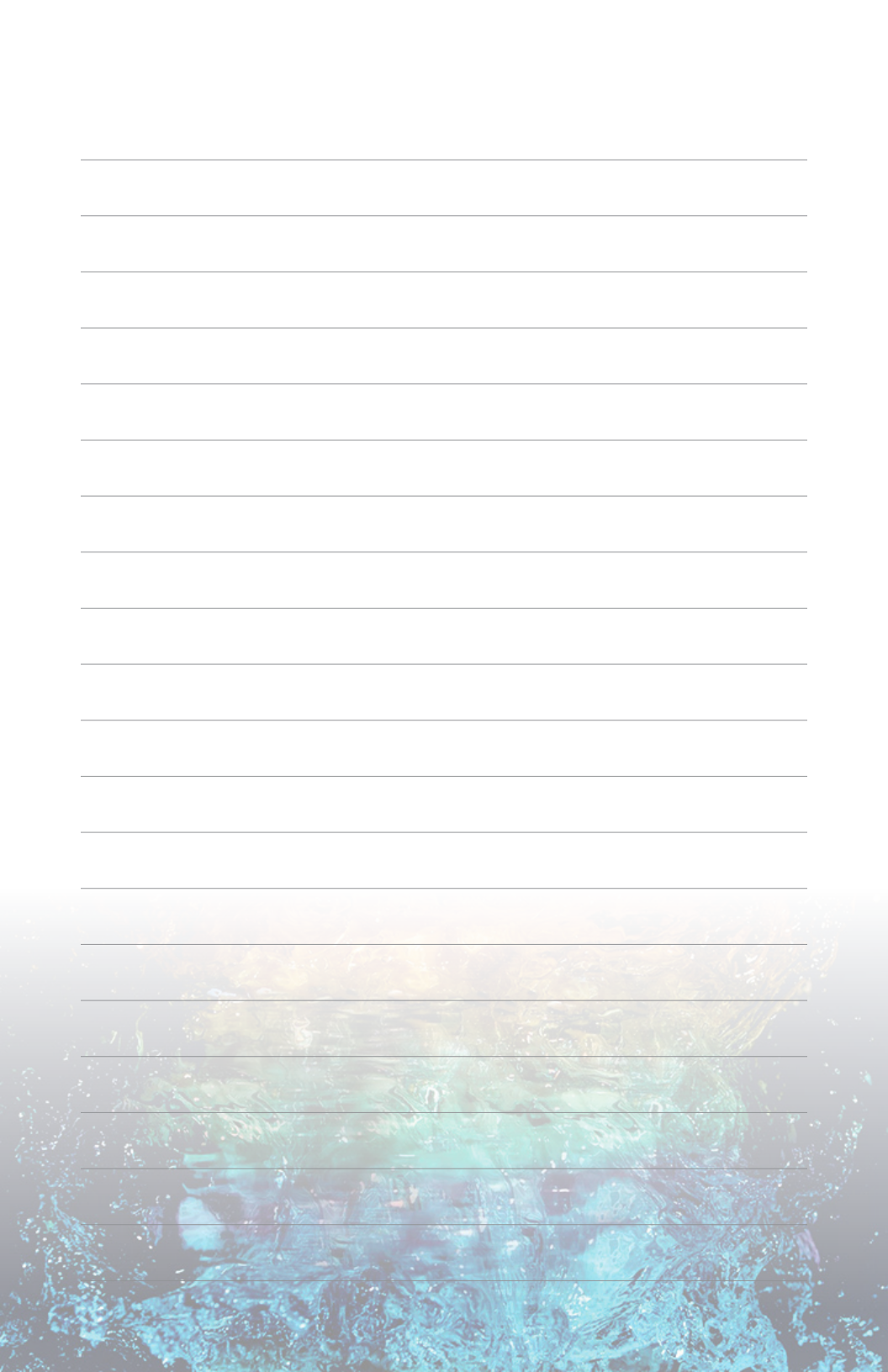
1. If we see no difference between theology and ministry, we become _____
2. If we value theology over ministry, then we become _____
3. If we value ministry over theology, then theology becomes _____

B. Understand the difference between acceptance and approval.

Acceptance:

Approval:





C. Listen more and talk less...

What's at stake & what I learned from my group...

1. Most felt same-sex attracted since _____
2. Almost all of them tried to _____
3. About half tried to _____
4. All of them had a bad _____
5. Most thought God _____

D. Realize the issue is mainly identity, not sexuality.

1. Ask the right _____.
2. People are _____ than we think.
3. The _____ is clear, the person is NOT.
4. This is why some in the LGBTQ community feel we are actually _____ them if we don't agree with them.

E. Be a person that others can belong to—even if they don't believe.

Most people want:

1. A _____ to belong to.
2. An _____ of who they are.
3. A _____ to be authentic & ask questions.

F. The fear of some people doesn't determine the value of many people.

- 1. Same-sex attraction is _____
- 2. Homophobia _____



III. How to Engage Those You Love...

A. What NOT to do if someone “comes out” to you.

When we don't control our emotions, we unintentionally hurt people.

5 things NOT to do when someone comes out to you (from Messy Grace):

Don't look disappointed.

Don't get mad.

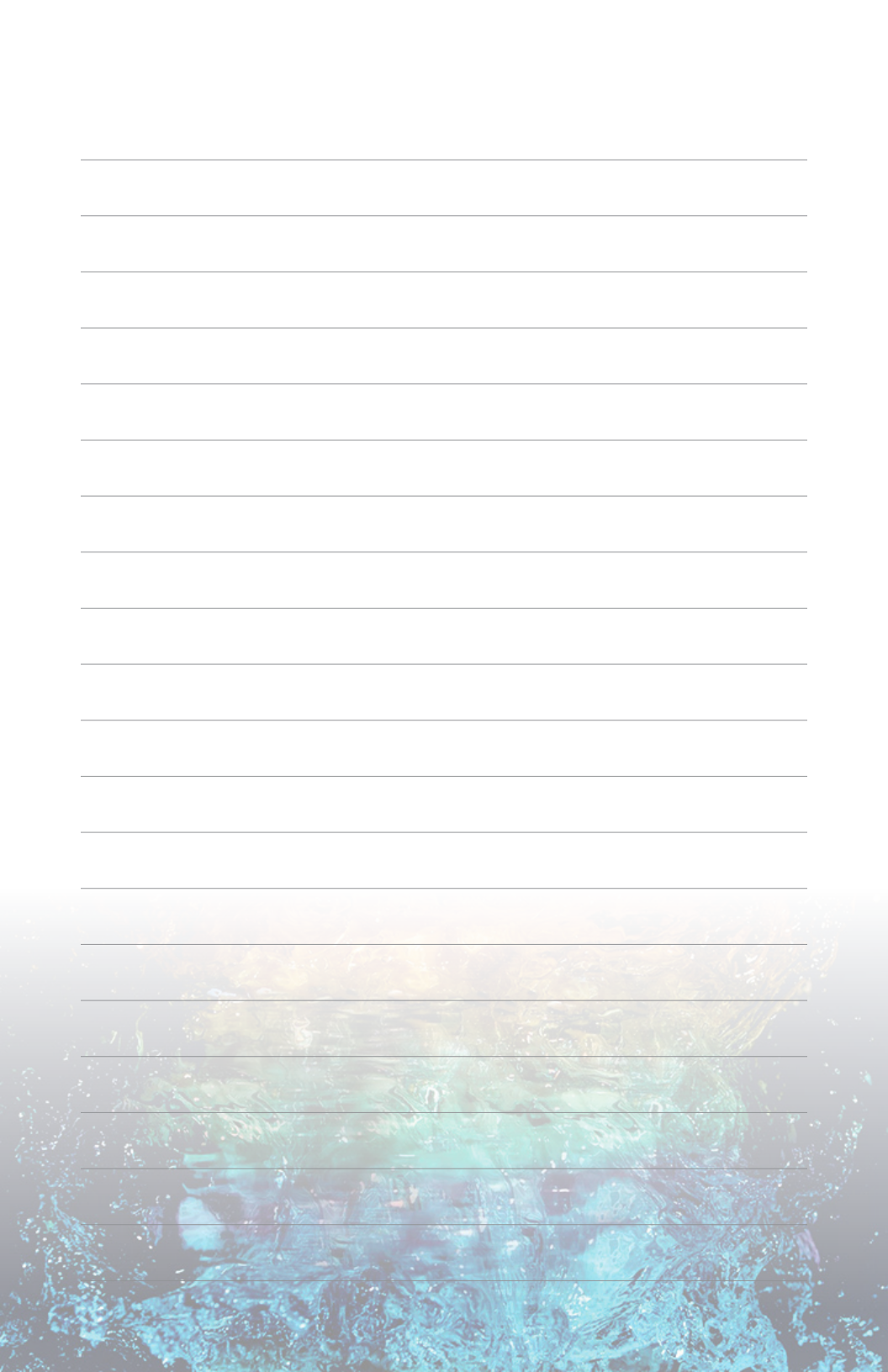
Don't throw out Bible verses.

Don't compare sins.

Don't try to get them counseling.

More “Don't do this” ideas.

1. Don't _____ them.
2. Don't _____ or anyone.
3. Don't bombard them with the _____.
4. Don't paint _____ that might happen.
5. Don't be _____.
6. Don't _____.
7. Don't make this moment about _____.
8. If it's your child, don't try to _____.

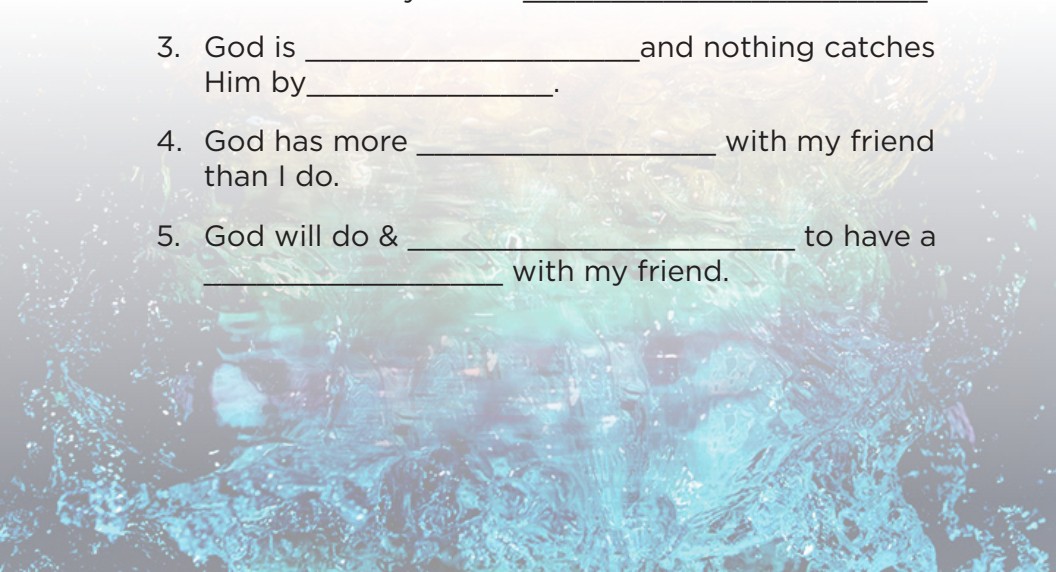


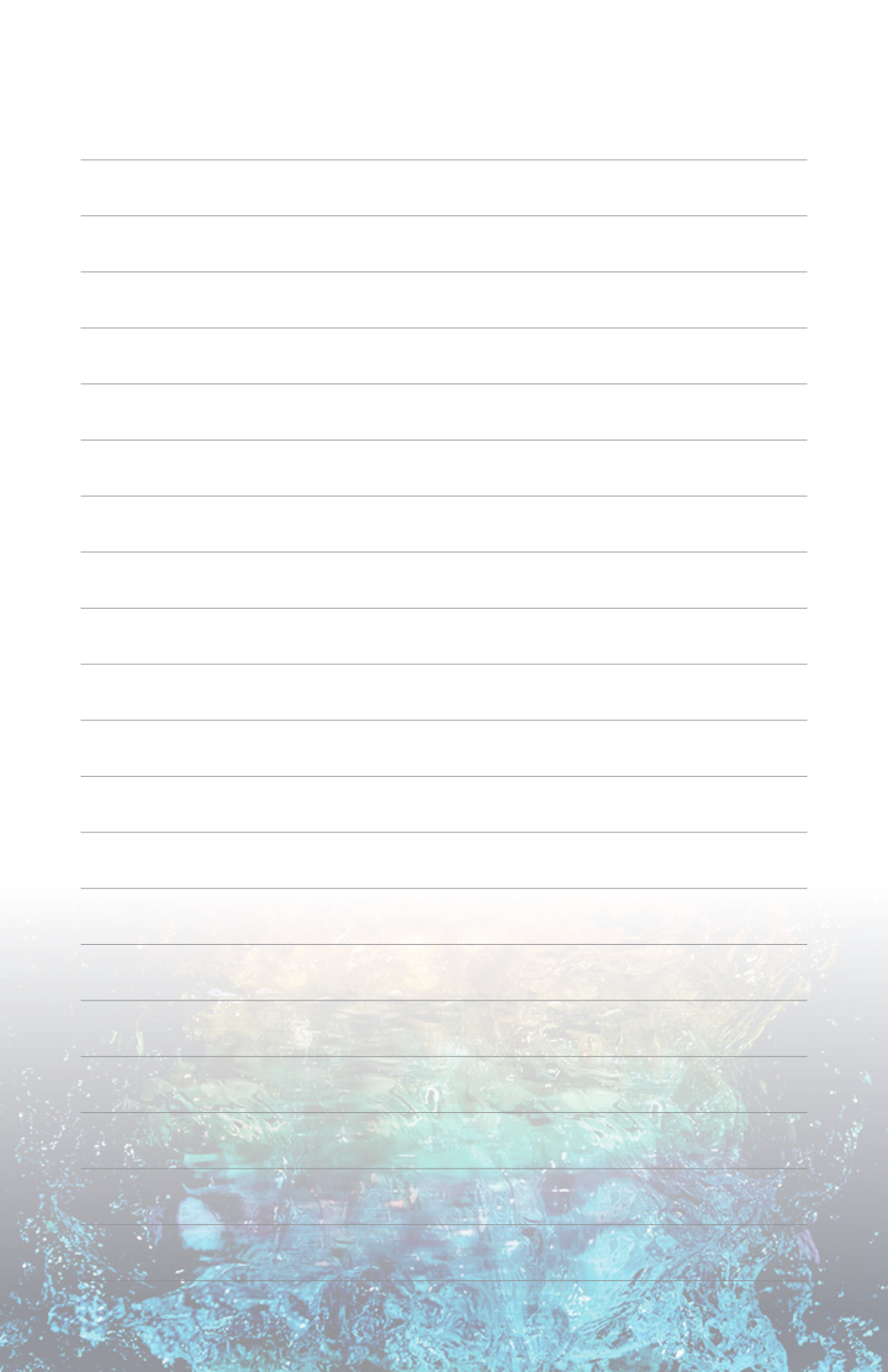
B. When someone “comes out” DO these things...

1. Listen. _____.
2. Allow them as much _____ as they need to share their _____.
3. _____ them for _____ you with their life.
4. _____ your _____ for them.
5. Reassure them that _____ with you.
6. Honor _____ if they desire.
7. Ask how you can best _____.

C. Don't be a “Sherlock Holmes”

D. Remember God's part in their life.

1. God loves my _____.
 2. God knows my friend _____.
 3. God is _____ and nothing catches Him by _____.
 4. God has more _____ with my friend than I do.
 5. God will do & _____ to have a _____ with my friend.
- 



IV. People & All Things LGBTQ

A. People matter to God.

Grace is for everyone & that includes _____

B. We should pursue those far from God.

1. God wants us to _____ outsiders.

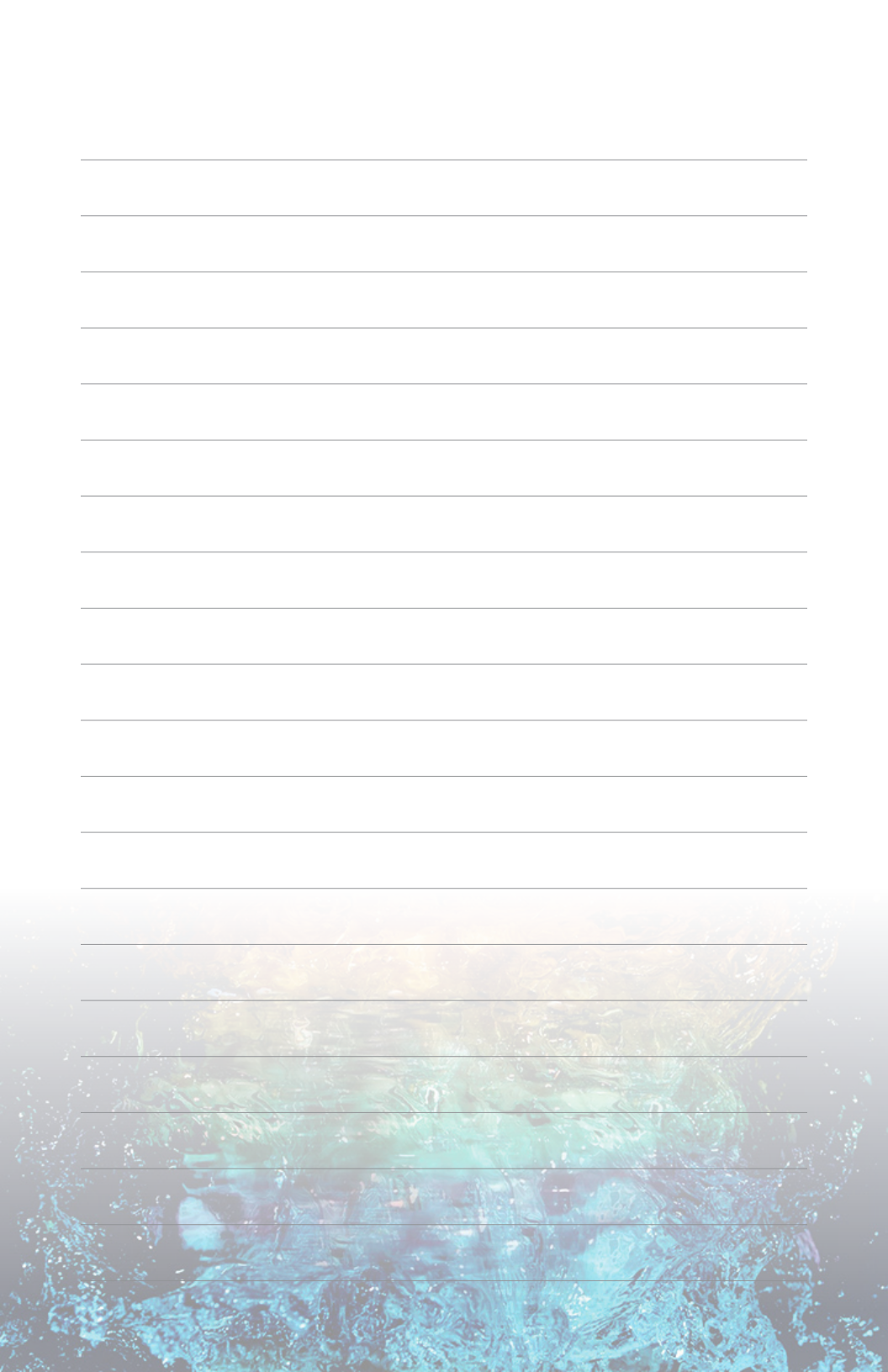
Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
- Luke 15:7

Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, - Acts 15:19

2. Outsiders aren't held to our _____

For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge?
- 1 Corinthians 5:12





C. What we do & say goes a long way.

1. Be _____ with how you interact with people.

John 3 vs. John 4

Acts 17 vs. Acts 23

2. Use empathy & learning to _____ to people

For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

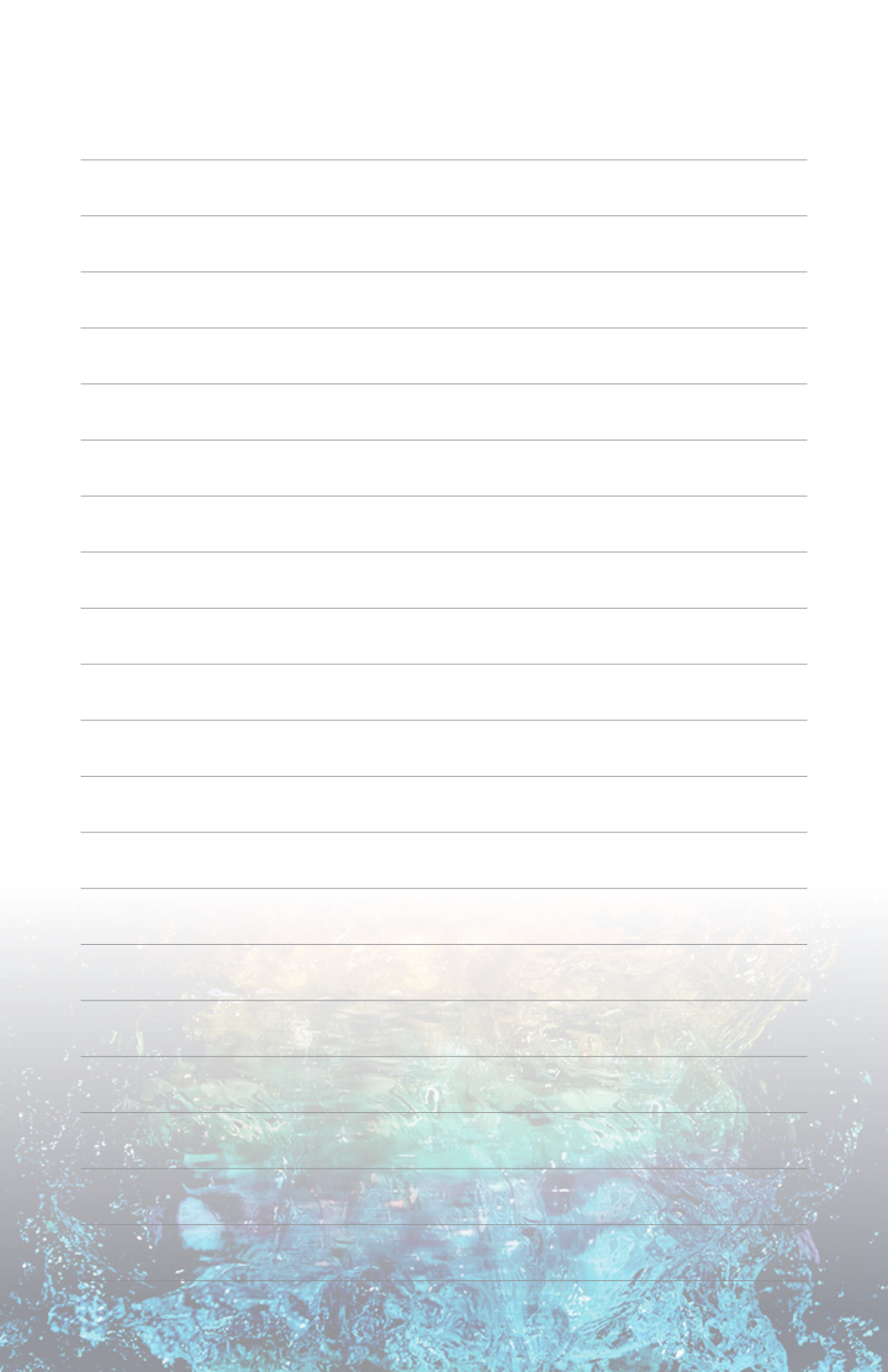
Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person. – Colossians 4:5-6

3. Our _____ towards others matters.

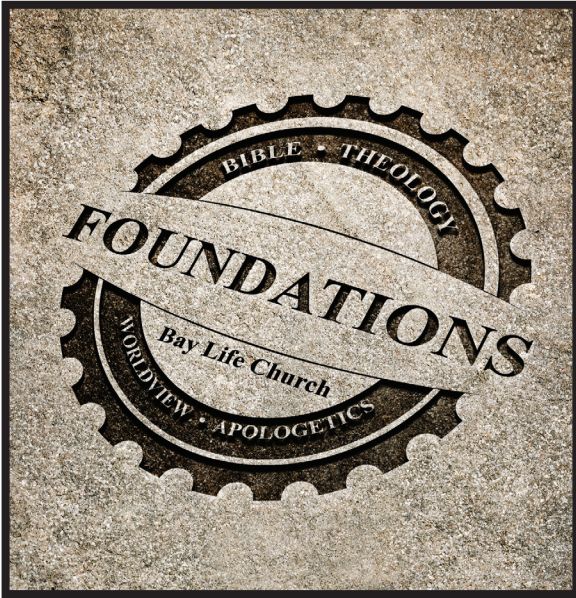
For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? – Matthew 5:46

But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. – Luke 6:35-36

Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?
– Romans 2:4



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