

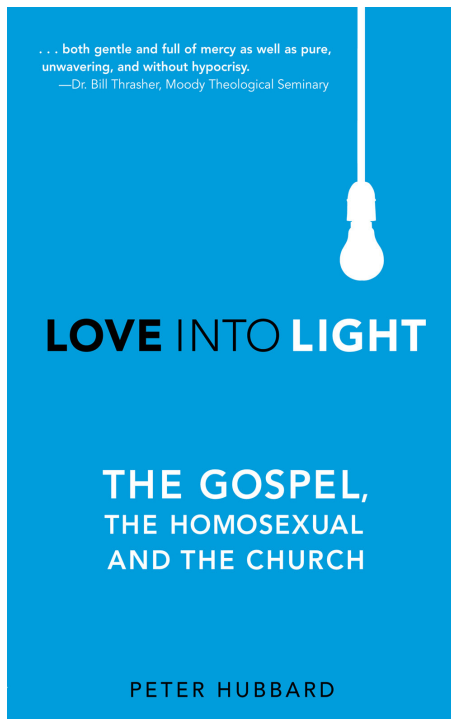


news release

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PASTOR MAKES PLEA TO CHURCH TO RETHINK APPROACH TO HOMOSEXUALITY NEW BOOK ENCOURAGES DISCUSSION ABOUT THE HOMOSEXUAL, THE CHURCH AND THE GOSPEL



For immediate release: Could God use one of the most controversial moral issues in our nation to awaken His church rather than damage it? Pastor Peter Hubbard believes He can. In his new book *Love Into Light: The Gospel, The Homosexual and The Church*, (Ambassador International; June 2013; \$12.99, paperback) Hubbard asks “How can Christians live in a culture that promotes the gay lifestyle, yet worship in a culture that never talks about it-- other than possibly to condemn it?”

According to an ABC News/Washington Post survey, Americans’ view of same-sex marriage flipped between 2006 and 2013, from 58% against to 58% for. Hubbard, who leads North Hills Community Church in Taylors, South Carolina, says he and other church leaders are under enormous pressure from opposing forces: secular culture lobbying the church for acceptance of the gay lifestyle and conservative Christians who refuse to recognize, discuss or even mention homosexuality. “The first time I counseled a man struggling with same-sex attraction (SSA), I felt awkward,” admits Hubbard at the very start of the book. “The more I listened, the more I learned, the more I realized—we are not different. We are the same. Our specific battles and sins may vary, but our hearts are the same. And our daily need for the grace of Jesus is the same.”

Love Into Light seeks to inject the cultural conversation with the same love and truth that Jesus offers. For those that see homosexuality as somehow worse than other sins, Hubbard offers clarity through his real-life counseling examples and scripture, explaining that self-righteous judgment of homosexuality is a sin just like homosexual behavior itself. “If our attitude toward a gay or lesbian person is disgust, we have forgotten the gospel,” says Hubbard. And for those who feel the Bible is an outdated resource on the topic, Hubbard argues its relevance.

The release of the book is also accompanied by the launch of LoveIntoLight.com where readers will find answers to difficult questions and situations Christians face. The site includes helpful resources and ministry suggestions for pastors and church leaders.

About the Author: Peter Hubbard is Teaching Pastor at North Hills Community Church in Taylors, SC, where he has communicated the truth of the scriptures since the church began in 1992. He has earned two masters degrees and is currently completing a doctor of ministry degree in pastoral counseling at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia.

For more information about the author and his ministries go to loveintolight.com. To connect with the author please contact publicist Alison Storm at media@emeraldhouse.com

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Suggested Interview Questions for the author:

1. What led you to write *Love Into Light*?
2. Do you believe some people may be called to shine the spotlight on Jesus through their experience with same-sex attraction (SSA)? P. 57
3. Why do you think it's important that we, in part, "agree with the accuser" and admit our sinfulness?
4. Are Christians "taking a few verses out of context" as it relates to homosexuality? p. 71
5. How does the Bible define gender roles? p. 144
6. What is the difference between preaching against homosexuality and instead teaching what accords with sound doctrine? p. 155
7. How have some Christians damaged opportunities to share Christ with homosexuals? p. 161
8. What are some of the worst ways a Christian could respond to an SSA struggler? p. 162
9. What are some of the best responses a Christian can have to someone struggling with SSA?
10. In what ways is a Christian response to homosexuality different from a conservative response? p. 164

Endorsements:

This comes at just the right time. . . . Those who live under Scripture are increasingly eager to put on humility, speak with and learn from those who experience same-sex attraction, and consider what all this means for life in Christ's Kingdom.

—Dr. Ed Welch, counselor and faculty member at CCEF

We live in a day where we face challenges that require God's wisdom. These challenges are designed by God to cause us to look to Him as to how He might use them to revive His church and equip it to be humble enough to love a broken world. This book reflects the wisdom from above which is described as both gentle and full of mercy as well as pure, unwavering, and without hypocrisy (James 3:17). It is a labor of love and contains vital truths that all of us need to hear and heed.

—Dr. Bill Thrasher, Moody Theological Seminary and Moody Bible Institute, Author and Professor

Love into Light is a big welcome mat at the church's front door for people who struggle with same-sex attraction and for those who wish to love them in Christ's name.

—Dr. Mark S. Gignilliat, Beeson Divinity School, Samford University

Peter Hubbard is a gifted teacher, and he wisely navigates what are uncharted waters for many Christians: How should churches relate to others with same-sex attractions?

—Dr. Andy Naselli, Bethlehem College and Seminary

Love into Light. . . . invites us to see our own hearts honestly and to reach out to people many churches would turn away . . .

—Laura Baker, President of Prasso Ministries

Powerfully insightful book. . . . I am not aware of a more valuable "first resource" to help shape our thinking on this very contemporary issue.

—Dr. Fred G. Zaspel, Calvary Baptist Seminary

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PETER HUBBARD *Author of "Love Into Light"*



Peter Hubbard is Teaching Pastor at North Hills Community Church in Taylors, SC, where he has communicated the truth of the scriptures since the church began in 1992. Peter appreciates the never-ending opportunities to engage with hurting people and to apply the hope of the gospel to the messy places of our lives. He has earned two masters degrees and is currently completing a doctor of ministry degree in pastoral counseling at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. Peter and his wife Karen have been married for twenty-five years and have four children.

Connect with Peter Hubbard

 LoveIntoLight.com

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