



## Resolution on Same-Sex Marriage

Assembly 2004 approved the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, we affirm the dignity and value of all persons and our responsibility to introduce them to the loving, reconciling ministry of Jesus Christ and the life-changing transformation described in scripture; and,

**Whereas**, Assembly 2003 passed a motion on the Definition of Marriage which stated, “marriage is to be between one man and one woman for life to the exclusion of all others” (Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:5-6, Ephesians 5:31); and,

**Whereas**, the September 2003 Council passed a resolution directing all BCOQ pastors/chaplains/counsellors, who are registered to perform marriages, not to officiate or co-officiate at any same-sex marriage ceremony and recommended that, in situations of non-compliance, his/her permanent registration to marry be revoked; and,

**Whereas**, we believe that the Bible teaches that marriage is between a man and a woman only, to legitimize same-sex marriage would be contrary to the understanding of the BCOQ based on Scripture and would harm its ministries (Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9)

**NOW THEREFORE** be it resolved, that we call upon all BCOQ churches to make every effort to demonstrate Christian love and concern for those involved in the practice of homosexuality by sharing with them the redeeming and transforming power of the grace of God made available through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ;

**And** that the BCOQ continue to oppose all efforts by any court or legislative body to validate or legalize same-sex marriages;

**And** that the BCOQ Assembly establishes the standard that all BCOQ pastors/chaplains/counsellors, who are registered to perform marriages not to officiate or co-officiate at any same-sex marriage ceremony;

**And** that in the event an accredited pastor/chaplain/counsellor officiates or co-officiates at a same-sex marriage ceremony he/she will be subject to disciplinary review as provided for in the BCOQ Protocol for Discipline, Reinstatement and Restoration Manual (a.k.a. The Red Book).

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