

Discussion Guide for Colby Adams "Hear Me" video

From Shawn Harrison

Show "Hear Me" video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aw8LYyPqYuQ>

What is your overall reaction to the spoken word given?

The poet wrote this spoken word after hearing Colby's testimony. The words and emotion stem from what the author heard, rather than personal experience. Yet he spoke and captured Colby's story as if it were his own. What does this teach us about the power and importance of listening to others?

Read James 1:19-22, NLT (you'll come back to discuss this passage later)

Why did Colby share with his youth group his struggle with same-sex attractions? What risk did he overcome to do so? Could you do the same about your struggles?

Colby said he wanted to follow Jesus no matter how hard and painful the journey would be. This was a pretty bold commitment. How about you? Could you make the same remark about following Jesus? Why?

Colby used the phrase "walking in freedom from homosexuality," yet he admits to still being attracted to guys. Explain what he means. Compare this to your own struggles.

How many of us repress our own personality just to fit in? Why do we allow this to happen? What are some dangers in doing this?

Does dressing a certain way, or even acting a certain way, really define someone into one category (especially 'straight or gay')?

Colby's friend, Aqueena, said a powerful statement, "When the Body of Christ needed to surround him, they shamed him (instead)." How does the church shame people? How should the church surround people? How about your youth group?

Aqueena again said, that the only way we can rightly love others is thru God's love. What does she mean? How can your youth group, and you individually, apply this?

James 1:19-22, NLT

James says, "You must be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry..."

Who are we to listen to and how?

(God and others. Hear God thru prayer, His word, His prompting. Be willing to hear what others are saying.)

When we speak, what do we say?

(Truth this is compassionate in tone: 1 Peter 3:15-16, 2 Timothy 2:23-25)

Human anger leads to unrighteousness. Godly anger leads to Godly righteousness. How does knowing and practicing the difference grow us in our walk with Christ? How does the difference help define our witness?

Challenge: apply this simple principle in your conversations this week. Report what happens next week.

Here are some other topics to continue this conversation: our identity in Christ, real relationships, loving our neighbor, Gods character & our character.