

# OneByOne Hosts a Dynamic Conference

February 16-17 at First Presbyterian Church of Orlando!

- Would you like to hear the **president of Exodus International, Alan Chambers**, share his testimony and national ministry? (See his book *God's Grace and Homosexual Next Door*)
- Do you have daughter who is struggling with lesbianism or who is in a lesbian relationship? **Melissa Fryrear from Focus on the Family** will share her testimony of her journey out of lesbianism and will provide ways you can reach out to your daughter.
- Are you a parent who has a son or daughter in the gay lifestyle? Are you aspouse with a husband or wife who is struggling with same-sex attraction? **Nancy Heche** will share her experience at our conference. (See her book *The Truth Comes Out*)
- Are you a youth leader who has questions about youth and homosexuality? **Scott Davis, Director of Exodus Youth** will be speaking and teaching a workshop on addressing homosexuality among our youth.
- Do you desire to do ministry in your church? **Randy Thomas, Director of Member Ministries of Exodus International** will share his testimony and his experience working with 120 member ministries across the USA.
- Have you heard of **musician Brian Bates**? He is a fantastic musician who has come out of the gay lifestyle. He will share his testimony and music at the conference. See his website at [www.brian-bates.com](http://www.brian-bates.com)

**TO REGISTER for this conference please go to [www.fpc.org/register](http://www.fpc.org/register). For updated information regarding hotels, transportation, meals, go to our website at [www.oneby1.org](http://www.oneby1.org) and click on to our link to the OBO Conference from our home page.**



## FINDING MYSELF

Years back, I walked (more like ran) out of a homosexual lifestyle. I reckoned with God and myself honestly in those early years. I began to love and trust God again, and rediscover a childhood faith, yet now one much deeper than mere church attendance. I found my home. I became an entirely new creation, the man I was meant to be, and always wanted to be. My entire perspective changed.

Brain will be featured at the upcoming OneByOne Conference February 16- 17, 2007. See his website at [www.brian-bates.com](http://www.brian-bates.com)

Purchase his CD as a Christmas gift for a loved one.



# ADVENT

He came so that we might be saved...



### WHAT'S INSIDE

Advent	Cover
Home for the Holidays	Page 2
Join the OneByOne Family	Page 2
Our Featured Books	Page 3
A Person Thank You	Page 3
Get Ready for the OneByOne Conference	Page 4
Finding Myself	Page 4



KRISTIN JOHNSON  
Executive Director, OneByOne

Dear Friends,

Advent means "arrival" or "coming into being". Christ arrived on this planet and took on human form and lived among us so that we would **know how much he and the Father loves us**. He gave his life for us so that we might be rescued from the evils that may befall us and the evils we may perpetrate.

**We all need a Savior.** No other religion can claim a God who loves his creatures so much that when they fail him and ask for mercy, he takes the blame upon himself. J.I. Packer writes, "The Greek and Roman world of the New Testament times had never dreamed of such love; its gods were often credited with lusting after women, but never with loving sinners; and the New Testament writers had to introduce what was virtually a new Greek word, *agape*, to express the love of God as they knew it."

*"Ob holy night! The stars are brightly shining. It is the night of the dear Savior's birth! Long lay the world in sin and error pining,*

*till he appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!"*

"Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth..." This is the good news of the gospel. When Christ appears in our lives and we allow ourselves to receive from him, we suddenly know and feel our worth.

Christmas can be a lonely time for many people. The season invites intimacy and fellowship and family. Many people do not have intimate connections with people – even their own children and spouse. The pain of estrangement and loneliness can be unbearable.

Continued on page three

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# Home *for* the Holidays

Thanksgiving and Christmas can be a very challenging and awkward time for families, particularly if a member of the family is living homosexuality. It is awkward not only for the parents, relatives, children and grandchildren who are present, but it is awkward for the member of the family who is in a gay relationship.

Parents ask, "Should I allow my daughter to bring her lover to Christmas? Do I allow them to sleep in the same room?" The child living homosexually may ask, "Why am I treated differently than my brother who is living with his girlfriend?" "Why can't I express my love openly as other couples do?"

First, it is important that parents make sure their child is welcome home, regardless of whether they decide to include their child's lover or not. Also, parents need to

be morally consistent. If they do not allow their daughter to bring her lover to the house or to have her lover stay over

night in the house, the same rule should apply for their son's girlfriend if he is having sex with her out of wedlock.

If a family decides to include their child's lover at a holiday gathering, they have to prepare other family members for their presence — including the children. Children should not be left to guess why Aunt Susie is holding another woman's hand. Parents may want to set appropriate boundaries; however, if there are too many boundaries and restrictions imposed on the homosexual



couple, they will feel completely rejected and estranged. If parents decide to welcome their child and his or her lover

over for a family gathering, make sure to have your holiday event center on Christ and his love. Many families are too busy opening presents, eating, drinking, and entertaining themselves to really allow the message of Christ's love to be included in their family get-together. Yet, bringing Christ into your family traditions is one of the most important things you can do to reach out to your son or daughter.

Another powerful way to reach out to your child and his or her lover is to show them physical

affection. Hug them, touch them, and ask them about their lives. You may be surprised to find that the presence of your son or daughter and their gay lover has brought revival to the way you do Christmas, to the way you relate to your child, and to your own relationship with Christ.

Finally, don't feel the need to say anything about homosexuality at all this Christmas, unless God opens a door. Instead, I encourage you to do one thing: point your son or daughter and their lover to Jesus. Only Jesus can open blind eyes and heal the human heart. So don't waste precious time trying to do what only God can do. And of course, pray like you've never prayed before.

- Kristin Johnson

## Featured Books:



**THE TRUTH COMES OUT:**  
*When Someone You Love Is in a Same-Sex Relationship*

Nancy Heche was just recently featured on the 700 Club and The O'Reilly Factor. Dr. Heche has been a guest speaker for OneByOne at the 2006 General Assembly in Birmingham, AL. OneByOne's Chair, Jeff Winter, is featured in Nancy's book.

Nancy Heche. Regal, \$19.99 (224p)  
ISBN 0-8307-3912-2

With master's and doctoral degrees in pastoral counseling, celebrity mom Heche seems a well-educated, poised, and caring woman. She has certainly endured more relational disappointments, setbacks and tragedies than most. In this candid memoir, Heche tells her life story in the hope that others (Christians and nonbelievers alike) will find common ground through her suffering and look to Christ for redemption and sustenance. Heche was married for 25 tumultuous years before her homosexual husband died of AIDS and his secret double life came out. Heche's 18-year-old son then died in a car crash and her actress daughter, Anne, began a public lesbian affair with Ellen DeGeneres. Within a short space of time, Heche found herself spiritually desolate, involved in numerous

affairs, and caught within a cyclical pattern of estrangement from loved ones. Happily, her story doesn't end in personal destruction. Heche chronicles how a sensitive group of Christians wedged their way into her broken heart and reveals how over time, healing and a new life emerged. While this autobiographical tale is engaging, Heche's passionate mission to overcome hatred among individuals on both sides of the issue of homosexuality is the book's true contribution. Ruth Graham (Billy's daughter) provides the foreword.

can become a haven for homosexuals seeking freedom from same-sex attraction. In this comprehensive guide to helping homosexuals, readers will learn about:

- The roots of homosexuality
- God's radical grace for sexual sinners
- Reaching youth both within and outside the church
- Dealing with fear and ignorance in the church
- Leading gays to Christ
- Mentoring homosexuals in the church
- Three degrees of homosexuality: militant, moderate or repentant
- Five things not to do in reaching out to gays and much more about this often perplexing subject.



**GOD'S GRACE AND THE HOMOSEXUAL NEXT DOOR:**  
*Reaching the Heart of the Gay Men and Women in Your World*

Executive Director of OneByOne, Kristin Johnson, is featured in Chamber's new book, along with five other testimonies of transformation.

Alan Chambers, Harvest House, \$13.99,  
ISBN 0-7369-1691-2

Author Alan Chambers—a former homosexual himself—and four of his colleagues at Exodus International offer practical and biblical insights on how both individuals and churches

Alan Chambers is the President of Exodus International. His own decision to leave homosexuality more than fourteen years ago gives him tremendous insight as he addresses this difficult issue in churches, colleges and various public forums around the world. Alan has been interviewed by Time magazine, ABC's 20/20, MSNBC's Buchanan & Press and ABC's Nightline. He was listed in Charisma magazine as one of the top Christian leaders who represent the future of the American church. Alan and his wife, Leslie, make their home in Orlando, Florida and are the parents of a son and daughter.

## Advent

*He came so that we might be saved...*

I often speak with people whose children who are living homosexuality are who not in communication with them or whose spouse has betrayed them for a homosexual relationship. I also speak with those who have overcome homosexuality but find themselves single when they had hoped to marr

and have children. Following the Lord is not easy, but the Lord is faithful to fill us with his love.

We often hear the Christian message of giving. We give and give at Christmas. As we give this year, let us not fail to receive. The best gift we can receive is the love, peace and joy that only the Lord can give. Ask him for it. Tell him, "I don't know how to 'delight in you' but show me how and help me." He will be faithful, and then you will find yourself giving this love to your children, to your friends, and to strangers without effort.

<sup>1</sup> J.I. Packer, *Knowing God* (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1973) 21

<sup>2</sup> *Words by Chappeau de Roquetaure, translated by John S. Dwight*

## Join the OneByOne Family and Be a Part of Our Church Network!

### BENEFITS OF BEING IN THE NETWORK:

- 1 -

ADVERTISE YOUR CHURCH ONLINE AS ONE WHO STANDS UP FOR TRUTH AND LOVE AS IT REGARDS THE ISSUE OF SEXUALITY.

- 2 -

POST YOUR SERMONS (ON SEXUALITY) ONLINE. WE ARE RECEIVING SERMONS NOW. EMAIL KRISTIN JOHNSON AT FOR MORE INFORMATION.

- 3 -

RECEIVE OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS, AND KEEP UP TO DATE WITH CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS.

- 4 -

RECEIVE PRAYER AND SUPPORT FROM THE ONEBYONE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. REQUEST SPEAKERS TO COME AND HELP EQUIP YOUR CHURCH FOR MINISTRY.

- 5 -

EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF HELPING OTHER OVERCOME SEXUAL BROKENNESS WITHIN YOU LOCAL CHURCH!

- 6 -

SHARE TESTIMONIES AND ADVERTISE YOUR LOCAL EVENTS ONLINE.

To become an OBO Church Network Member, download our application on our website. Click onto "Church Network" from our home page . Feel free to call Kristin Johnson at 585-586-6180 if you have any questions.

## A Personal Thank You to Churches and Individuals Who Support OBO

*Dear Friend and Supporter of OBO,*

*During this season of giving and receiving, we want to extend a heartfelt thanks to you who have given to the ministry of OBO. Without your support and prayers, this ministry would not exist in our church today. May God richly reward your generosity!*

*Sincerely,  
The OneByOne Board of Directors*