

Bible Study: March 3,2019 *Seeing Black & White in A Gray World*
 By: *Bill T. Arnold* **Chapter 3, The Fork In The Road.**

| PAGE/CHAPTER SECTION | STATEMENT | CONCEPT FOR DISCUSSION | BIBLE REFERENCE |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|
| 66/ Holiness | Christ invites us to enter into a loving and forgiven relationship with him. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Love 2. Forgiveness | |
| 66/ Holiness | The UMC should strive to find new ways to affirm "that all persons are individuals of sacred worth, including new ways to welcome, love, forgive and serve one another ,... | Respect | On God's part: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regards the lowly (James 2: 3, 9). 2. Honors His covenant (2 Kings 13:23). 3. Makes God just (1 Peter 1:17). |
| 66/ Holiness | ... yet we should nevertheless not endorse same-sex practices or ordain candidates for ministry who accept and celebrate a same-sex lifestyle. | Sexes – male & female | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Equality in Christ: Galatians 3:28 2. Different functions of: 1 Tim. 2: 8 – 15. <p>OPEN DISCUSSION</p> |
| 67/Hospitality | ..Christianity is characterized first and foremost by love, as exemplified by Christ. | Disciples of Christ | John 13: 34, 35 <p>OPEN DISCUSSION</p> |
| 67/Hospitality | On the basis of Christ's unconditional love, we should change the UMC position on same-sex practices | Human Dignity | Based on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God's Image: Gen: 1:26 2. Elevated by God: Ps. 8:3 – 8 3. Loved: John 3:16 4. Chosen: John 15:16 |
| 68/Hospitality | The love of Christ constrains us to name the current UMC position on same-sex practices as discriminatory. | UMC: Lasting Fruit (John 15:16) | OPEN DISCUSSION |
| 68/Hospitality | ..the church has a long history of using the Bible to treat people unjustly, such as race-based slavery and the repression of women. | Women | OPEN DISCUSSION |