



## Todd Tuttle

I know what it feels like to be told that if you have enough faith, you can change your sexual orientation. I know what it feels like to wake up at night and wonder why God is not listening to my pleas for help. I also know what it feels like to realize that there was nothing wrong with me in the first place and that I didn't need to change to be acceptable to God, my family or myself. Reparative therapy is based on the faulty and dangerous premise that there is something wrong with a person if they are not heterosexual. Reparative therapy says that in order to be whole, you must conform to the heterosexual standard of those who base their beliefs on pseudoscience and prejudice. Love doesn't mean I will love you if you change. True love means that I love you just the way you are.

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Todd Tuttle is a former Fundamentalist Baptist Minister who attended Jerry Falwell's Liberty University in the early eighties. While as a student at Liberty, Tuttle met his current partner Marc Adams. In 1999, Tuttle and Adams founded HeartStrong, a national non-profit that reaches out to GLBT students from religious schools. <http://www.heartstrong.org>

Tuttle underwent reparative therapy through an affiliate of Exodus International in 1987 and is the author of several books including *The Do's and Don'ts of Dealing with the Religious Right*, co-authored by Marc Adams.