

Our daughter, who has been happily married (or so we thought) for 18 years with three beautiful children, visited us recently. She told us she was separating from her husband, as she discovered she is gay and had fallen in love with a woman.

This news devastated us. I spent days in tears and in spite of kindness from friends in the same situation, the grief was intense. My husband was also affected deeply. I am now on antidepressants which help me keep calm while coming to terms with it all.

I have always felt that being gay is a nurture not a nature issue and thus felt guilt and responsibility. Where had I, where had we, gone wrong? We have not always properly connected with our children. We also moved away when she was 18. Though she had already met her future husband, she felt abandoned, and was angry and resentful towards us (particularly towards me). However I thought we had got through that.

We have met her partner, a lovely person. But underlying this is our feeling that this is all wrong and not something God will bless (marriage has been discussed). So we continue to pray they will see this is not God's best, get help and reunite with her husband and the children as a family again.

If this doesn't happen, we will continue to love our daughter unconditionally and support and accept (but not affirm) them both. Our relationship with her is of utmost importance and our love will never change in spite of the circumstances. We just keep praying!"