



## 10 Things You Can Do to Be an Ally to People Who Are LGBTQ+ in Your Faith Community

**Looking for simple ways to start being amore engaged and active ally in your faith community?**

**Try using a few of these suggestions to build your ally skills and start creating change.**

1. **Learn.** Research and understand your faith community's position on the issues that affect people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) such as relationship recognition, non-discrimination, and the ordination of openly LGBTQ+ clergy.
2. **Become a resource.** Learn more about welcoming and affirming resources for your faith tradition and share them with others. Provide books or movies about the intersection of faith and LGBTQ+ issues for the congregation library.
3. **Educate others.** Let your faith community know about which companies, community groups, and charitable organizations are inclusive of people who are LGBTQ+...and which ones aren't.
4. **Encourage participation.** Personally invite people who are LGBTQ+ to services and/or events at your place of worship and ask them to share their stories with others in your faith community.
5. **Speak up.** When people speak negatively about people who LGBTQ+ be the one who raises an objection. Remind people that everyone should be treated with respect and kindness.
6. **Tell your story.** Do what you can to share with others in your faith tradition why you're an ally. Tell a story about acceptance and love for all people, including people who are LGBTQ+.
7. **Have a discussion.** Meet with faith leaders, share why you think your community needs to be more welcoming and affirming for people who are LGBTQ+, and provide suggestions on how to achieve that goal.
8. **Host an event.** Show a film, host a panel presentation, or invite a guest speaker to get a new perspective and follow it with a group discussion.
9. **Consider change.** Support organizational policies at the local and institutional level that promote diversity, inclusion, and equality, and encourage others to do the same.
10. **Make the ask.** Request that faith leaders of your tradition perform commitment ceremonies and wedding ceremonies for LGBTQ+ couples.

**Don't forget to visit [straightforequality.org](http://straightforequality.org) and read the *guide to being a straight ally* and *the guide to being a trans ally*. Be sure to follow us on Twitter [@S4Equality](https://twitter.com/S4Equality) and Like us on Facebook [facebook.com/S4Equality](https://facebook.com/S4Equality).**

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