

IV. Statement on Biblical Sexuality

1. Both men and women are created in God's image, equal before God as persons and are distinct in their manhood and womanhood. The Old Testament, as well as the New Testament, manifests the equally high value and dignity which God attached to the complementary roles of both men and women, specifically as it relates to the home and to the church.
2. The differences between male and female reproductive structures are integral to God's design for self-conception as male and female. Physical anomalies or psychological conditions do not nullify the God-appointed link between biological sex and self-conception as male or female.
3. Those born with a physical disorder of sex development are created in the image of God and have dignity and worth equal to all other image-bearers. They are acknowledged by our Lord Jesus in Matthew 19:12, "as eunuchs who were born that way from their mother's womb." With all others they are welcome as faithful followers of Jesus Christ and should embrace their biological sex insofar as it may be known.
4. God has designed marriage to be a covenantal, sexual, procreative, lifelong union of one man and one woman, as husband and wife. This covenant before God is meant to signify the covenant love between Christ and his bride, the church.
5. God's revealed will for all people is chastity outside of marriage and fidelity to one's spouse within marriage. No affection, desire or commitment ever justifies sexual intercourse before or outside of marriage.
6. Sin distorts sexual desires by directing them away from the marriage covenant and toward sexual immorality. This distortion can include both heterosexual and homosexual immorality, and is wholly unjustifiable.
7. People who experience sexual attraction for the same sex may live a rich and fruitful life pleasing to God through faith in Jesus Christ as they, like all Christians, walk in purity of life in accordance with scripture.
8. The grace of God in Christ gives both merciful pardon and transforming power. This pardon and power enables a follower of Jesus to put to death sinful desires and to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord. The grace of God in Christ is sufficient to forgive all sexual sins and to give power for holiness to every believer who feels drawn to sin.
9. Christ Jesus has come into the world to save sinners. Through Christ's death and resurrection, forgiveness of sins and eternal life are available to every person who repents of sin and trusts in Christ alone as Savior, Lord, and supreme treasure.

Scripture References:

Gen. 1:26–28; Gen. 2:15-25; Gen. 3:1-24; Exod. 20:14; Exod. 20:17; Lev. 18:22; Lev. 20:13; Deut. 5:18; Deut. 5:21; Deut. 22:5; Judges 19:22; 2 Sam. 11:1-12:15; Job 31:1; Psalm 51:1-19; Prov. 5:1-23; Prov. 6:20-35; Prov. 7:1-27; Isa. 59:1; Mal. 2:14; Matt. 5:27–30; Matt. 19:4-6; Matt. 19:8-9; Matt. 19:12; Acts 15:20, 29; Rom. 1:26–27; Rom.

1:32; 1 Cor. 6:9–11; 1 Cor. 6:18-20; 1 Cor. 7:1-7; 1 Cor. 11:2-16; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 3:28; Gal. 5:24; Eph. 4:15; Eph. 4:20–24; 3; Col. 3:5; Col. 3:18-19; 1 Thess. 4:3-8; 1 Tim. 1:9–10; 1 Tim. 1:15; 1 Tim. 2:11-15; 2 Tim. 2:22; Titus 2:3-5; Titus 2:11-12; Heb. 13:4; James 1:14–15; 1 Pet. 2:11; 1 Peter 3:1-7; Jude 7