

Statement of Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

1. We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Rejection of one's biological gender is a rejection of the image of God within that person. (Gen. 1:27; Deut. 22:5; Matt. 19:4)
2. We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning and that is marriage sanctioned by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated by Scripture. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no sexual intimate activity be engaged outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. (Gen. 2:18, 24, 3:16; 1 Cor. 6:9; Matt. 19:1-30; Prov. 31:10-31; Heb. 13:4; Eph. 5:25)
3. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, transgenderism, sexual activity outside of the scriptural bonds of marriage) is sinful and offensive to God. (Lev. 18:22, 20:13; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Rom. 1:26-27; 1 Tim. 1:10; Jude 1:7)
4. We believe that it is imperative that all persons employed by the church in any capacity, or are members of the church, or who serve as volunteers, shall abide by and agree to the Statement of Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality and conduct themselves in accordance. This is necessary in order to preserve the function and the integrity of the church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the church members and the community. (1 Peter 3:1-6; 1 Tim. 3:1-16; Acts 20:28; 1 Tim. 5:17; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-14; 2 Tim. 2:15; James 3:1; 2 Tim. 2:2; 2 Tim. 3:17; 3 John verses 9-11; Eph. 4:11-12)
5. We believe that God offers full redemption and restoration to all who confess, repent, and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Eph. 1:7; Titus 2:14; Rom. 3:24; Col. 1:13-14; 1 Tim. 2:6; Matt. 20:28; Eph. 1:13; Heb. 9:15; Mark 10:45; 1 John 1:9-10; James 5:16; Ps. 103:10-14; Rom. 3:23; Ps. 32:5; Prov. 28:13; Acts 3:19; Matt. 26:28; Isa. 55:7; Acts 10:43; Heb. 8:12; Eph. 2:8; John 8:7; 1 John 2:12; Acts 13:38-39; Matt. 6:9-15)