



### III. Loving Our Neighbors in a World of Gender Confusion

Christ Fellowship Church – February 23, 2020  
Biblical Sexuality – Class 4

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#### A. Adopt a Posture of Compassion

#### B. Speak the Truth in Love

- Express love to the person
- Be quick to listen and ask open ended questions
- Explain the Biblical truth gently
- Clarify that you too are a sinner in need of grace
- Share the hope of the gospel of Christ
- Talk about details such as what language you'll use
- Discuss what the relationship should look like

#### C. Offer the Supreme Hope of the Gospel

#### D. Call to Realistic Repentance

- Repentance is hard *and* possible!
- Avoid false promises about the Christian life

#### E. Keep Going by God's Grace

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##### For further study:

- *Transgenderism* by Vaughn Roberts (short and immensely helpful)
- *God and the Transgender Debate* by Andrew T. Walker (longer book, but thorough and pastorally sensitive)
- "From Agender to Ze: A Glossary for the Gender Identity Revolution," Joe Carter, online at The Gospel Coalition
- "Transgender and Intersex: Andrew Wilson on How Should the Church Interact in Love," Justin Taylor, online at The Gospel Coalition

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### *Who Am I? A Christian Response to Transgenderism*

#### I. Introduction

- "It is who I am"
- What does it look like to love someone who experiences gender confusion?
- At its heart, this debate isn't about a debate. It's about people: precious people made in the image of God who are hurting, who are confused, who are angry, who are scared, who may have been told by their family that they are unwelcome. It's about some people who are delighted with how culture has shifted when it comes to gender identity, and other people who are concerned about how culture is shifted. What would Jesus do? He would listen to us, and he would love us, and when he disagreed with us, it would always and only be out of compassion, never oppression. There is no hurting person he would mock, or shun, or insult, or sneer at. He is so determined to pursue what is best for all of us that he died—excluded, mocked, and rejected—to secure it. (Walker, *God and the Transgender Debate*, pp. 14-15)

#### II. Defining the Terms

- Sex – The physical, biological, and anatomic dimensions of being male or female.
- Gender – The psychological, social, and cultural aspects of being male or female.
- Gender Identity – How you experience yourself (or think of yourself) as male or female, including how masculine or feminine a person feels.
- Gender Dysphoria – The experience of distress associated with the incongruence wherein one's psychological and emotional gender identity does not match one's biological sex.

- Transgender – An umbrella term for the many ways in which people might experience and/or present and express (or live out) their gender identities differently from people whose sense of gender identity is congruent with their biological sex.

### III. A Biblical Theology of Gender

We live in a Genesis 3 world with a Genesis 1 blueprint on the trajectory to a Revelation 21 future. (Andrew Walker, p. 88)

#### A. Creation

- Genesis 1:26-27, 31
- Biological sex is a good gift of God to every individual. (*Psalm 139:13-14*)
- The common secular assumption is that sex and gender are distinct, with sex referring to biology and gender to psychology.
- The danger of Gnosticism – revering the mind while abhorring the body.

#### B. The Fall

- Romans 1:18, 21

- The reality of fallen self-perception (Jeremiah 17:9)

- The compounding pressure of authenticity.

- This reality affects us all.

- Our hope? Titus 3:3-4

#### C. The resurrection affirms the goodness of the body.

- 1 Corinthians 15:42
- Transgenderism: psychological identity trumps physical anatomy (mind over matter).
- Christianity: we are united, body and soul. The body is good!
- We will still have our God-given gender in the New Jerusalem.