

Marriage, Sex, and Gender statement

Gateway is committed to walking in the grace and truth demonstrated to us by Jesus. This means that we hold tightly to a Biblical design and instruction for morality. We believe that the Bible defines marriage as the covenant relationship between a biological man and a biological woman. We also believe that God intends sexual activity to occur only within the confines of this covenantal and monogamous definition of marriage.

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female and that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Gender is not a social construct, and is directly connected to one's biological sex. Though there are stereotypes within the culture that do not line up with the design God had intended for both men and women, gender and sex are not on a spectrum and do not overrule one's biology and physiology. We believe that God has individually equipped us so that we can successfully achieve His purpose for our lives, which is to know Him and make Him known in our world of influence. We believe that God wants to heal and transform us so that we can live healthy and blessed lives in order to serve Him and others more effectively.

While we would not affirm the actions of those who live contrary to this Biblical design, we believe that all of humanity is created in the image of God and has inherent value and dignity. We also realize that no one is right with God based on their merit. We believe that God doesn't expect us to get our issues sorted out before we come to trust in Christ. Rather, the Spirit of God does His work of salvation from the inside out, changing our hearts and desires as we grow in Him. The salvation from sin and death, purchased by Jesus' sacrifice, is a gift of God and necessary for every one of us. Entering into this work through repentance and faith is available for all, no matter their past sexual choices or present lifestyle.