

Statement of Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

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. (Genesis 1:26-27) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance. (Genesis 2:24, 19:5, 19:13, 26:8-9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1, 6:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4) Such sinful lifestyles, without the change that repentance brings, will be a barrier to membership and leadership in Cornerstone Baptist Church.

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning; the uniting of one naturally born man and one naturally born woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Genesis 2:18-25) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and woman who are married to each other. (1 Corinthians 6:18, 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activities be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matthew 15:18-20; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Cornerstone Baptist Church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to Cornerstone Baptist Church members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Cornerstone Baptist Church in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. (Matthew 5:16; Philippians 2:14-16; 1 Thessalonians. 5:22)

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of Cornerstone Baptist Church.