



Transgenderism

Our Position and Policy

This document represents our understanding and interpretation of biblical teachings on transgenderism by the Elders and Pastors of Fellowship Church.

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and Earth and all things, visible or invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds (æons), Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;

And in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

The Nicene Creed, 381 A.D.

Societies from all cultures are, from time to time, burdened by a time of questioning regarding that culture's assumptions and norms. It can be painful, disorienting and even violent. One of the issues of our current age comes from the place of questioning society's understanding of gender roles and sexual identity. It has included what became called the Sexual Revolution, Women's Rights movement and the gay rights and LGBT movement. Currently, at the time of the writing of this document, is the issue of transgenderism and gender dysphoria. The idea that one is not of the sex they were born into is hotly debated not only on issues of cultural acceptance but also the very nature of reality. Is the nature of reality set, not concerned about how we interact with it? Is reality bent to our will, able to be defined by our experience of it? Is there truth? Is there not?

Centuries and decades of undermining the reality of truth and being has left humanity stranded in a lonely universe where only the self is real. The self is the highest good and anything that denies the self is harmful and dangerous. What Descartes started with "I think, therefore I am" ended with Derrida and Sartre and "only I can decide what reality is." We have made ourselves into gods that can define what is right and wrong; decide which biological sex they represent. We have made ourselves into gods that have nothing but wrath for those that will not worship at our altar and who oppose our wills.

Central, and counter, to all this is the question of God. "Is there a God or is there only me?" is a question that is repeatedly getting asked, though many do not see it this way. The problem with the question is that those that ask it then never ask the obvious follow up question- what are the consequences of both options? If there is no God, then I am free to make whatever choices I want in my life and can assign good or bad to whatever or whomever I wish.

If there is a Creator God, however, the choices become radically clear. If I am His creation then all the realities He decrees about His creation are truth to me, whether I want them to be or not.¹ Going against those truths then becomes rebellion against the Creator God.² Going against the Nature He created is sure to have consequences not only in the quality of my life, but in my understanding of this world and life.³

We of Fellowship Church seek to not only submit ourselves to the will of the Creator but see that submission as the fundamental nature of worship.⁴ We dare not worship created

¹ Romans 1:28-32

² Romans 1:24-25

³ 1 Corinthians 2:14-16

⁴ Psalm 95:6-7

things above the Creator God. It is He who set the world in its place, gave the laws of nature their dominion and limitations and created humanity as male and female and in His own image.⁵ He did so with all wisdom, knowledge and foresight.⁶

If we understand that God is as He has revealed Himself through His Prophets and most clearly in the person of Jesus Christ, we can know that He has all power and knowledge, makes His creation and calls it good and has assigned purpose to all He has made.⁷ These are the consequences of that knowledge; we are fearfully and wonderfully made.⁸ He knew me before any of me was formed. This is not only the logical ramifications of such a Being acting as Creator but is also clearly spelled out in His revelation of Himself.⁹

Transgenderism, the idea that there are people who believe they are fundamentally different than the sex they were assigned at birth, then asks two fundamental questions of the Creator- did you make a mistake? or did you want me this way?

The answer to these questions is fundamentally no. Fundamental because the issues raised by these questions call into question the person and nature of God Himself. The intentionality with which God has created the Creation cannot be set aside. This line of thinking rejects not only what we have learned with our own observations of the universe, its precision and mathematical fine tuning, but also of the bedrock revelations of the Bible itself. If the questioner begins at the place that God either made a mistake or wanted them this way, questioning their reality, then the clash between those ideas and the reality of a Creator God becomes paramount.

We at Fellowship Church must follow our Creator God and His revelation. We cannot follow a society that would so fundamentally deny the God we revere. The issue is a non-starter. Regardless of what one's own experience is, we must hold to Paul's mandate "Let God be true, even if it make all men liars."¹⁰

We fully and passionately also embrace that we are all sinners.¹¹ We have all believed and embraced things that are also denying of the Lord of the Universe. We dare not consider ourselves better or more righteous. Any person made captive by this issue can only receive our love and care as we present the truth, or we have dismissed the command of the Lord. We strive and hope to be the place of grace, mercy and truth.

May the Lord of Heaven and Earth receive all praise and glory!

⁵ Job 38:4-7; Genesis 1:27

⁶ Psalm 139:13-16

⁷ Hebrews 1:1-4; Romans 1:20

⁸ Psalm 139:13-15

⁹ John 14:8-11;

¹⁰ Romans 3:4

¹¹ Romans 3:9-13