

Statement on Marriage and Sexuality

Purpose

The purpose of this statement is to clearly convey the beliefs of the elders, staff, and members of Twin City Bible Church regarding marriage and human sexuality, as defined in the Holy Bible.

Definition of Marriage

We believe that the term “marriage” has only one meaning and that marriage is sanctioned by God and is a gift from God. Marriage joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive one-flesh union and covenant relationship for a lifetime. Marriage is God’s pattern, revealing the unique relationship between Jesus Christ and His church. (Genesis 2:18-25; Matthew 19:3-9; Ephesians 5:31-32)

We believe the husband and the wife are of equal worth before God. Scripture teaches that both husband and wife have distinct roles and responsibilities. The husband has the responsibilities to love, lead, provide for, and protect his wife. The wife has the responsibilities to graciously submit to her husband and his leadership and to be a suitable helper. (Genesis 2:18; Ephesians 5:22-33; 1 Peter 3:1-7)

Human Sexuality

We believe that God intends sexual intimacy is a gift from God and is to only occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has prohibited any intimate sexual activity outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. (1 Corinthians 6:18)

We believe that any form of sexual immorality, such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography or any attempt to change one’s sex, or disagreement with one’s biological sex, is sin and therefore offensive to God. (Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (1 John 1:9)

We believe that every person is made in the image of God and must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of the church. (Genesis 1:26-27; 1 John 4:7-8)

TCBC Marriage Policy

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of the church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the church members and the community, it is imperative that all Elders, persons employed by the church in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, or are recognized as members, should abide by and agree to the Twin City Bible Church Statement on Marriage and Sexuality. TCBC affirms that all weddings associated with this church, and any other related activities,

celebrations, or ceremonies that occur on the TCBC campus, shall be for weddings which meet the biblical standards articulated in this document. Additionally, all pastors and church staff shall only participate in weddings that meet the biblical standards articulated in this document. Those who desire to conduct a marriage ceremony at Twin City Bible Church or for Twin City Bible Church members are subject to the review and approval of the Elders at Twin City Bible Church.