



STATEMENT ON MARRIAGE AND HUMAN SEXUALITY

Preamble

We believe that all matters of faith and conduct must be evaluated on the basis of the Bible, which is our infallible guide (2 Timothy 3:16-17). We believe God has ordained and created marriage to exist between one man and one woman with long-term commitment with absolute marital fidelity. It is our firm conviction that we uphold the dignity of each individual as we embrace the unchanging and longstanding principles of Biblical truth.

Religious Beliefs

Based on the Bible, we believe:

- **Marriage:** Northwest Bible Church defines marriage as the exclusive, comprehensive, and “one flesh” union of one man and one woman, intrinsically ordered for the revelation of God, for the joy of man and woman, and for procreation and biological family, and in furtherance of the moral, spiritual, and public good of binding father, mother, and child. (Genesis 1:27-28; 2:18-24; Matthew 19:4-9; Mark 10:5-9; Ephesians 5:31-33)
- **Sexual Immorality:** Northwest Bible Church believes that sexual acts outside of marriage are prohibited as sinful, and consequently, Northwest Bible Church employees must agree to resist and refrain from all sexual acts outside of marriage as defined in this statement. (Exodus 20:14; Leviticus 18:7-23; 20:10-21; Deuteronomy 5:18; Matthew 5:27-28; 15:19; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-13; Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Hebrews 13:4)
- **Sexual Identity:** Northwest Bible Church believes that God created mankind in His image: male (man) and female (woman), sexually different but with equal personal dignity. Consequently, Northwest Bible Church employees must refrain from physically changing or altering their predominant biological sex. (Genesis 1:26-28; 1 Corinthians 6:9-13)
- **Sexual Redemption:** Northwest Bible Church believes that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and should seek redemption through faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that God’s grace covers all sin, including sexual sin. Consequently, Northwest Bible Church employees must welcome and treat with respect, all who are committed to resisting sexual temptation, refraining from sexual immorality, and conforming their behavior to Northwest Bible Church’s Doctrinal Statement and Statement on Marriage and Human Sexuality. (Matthew 11:28-30; Romans 3:23; Ephesians 2:1-10; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Hebrews 2:17-18; 4:14-16)

Authority

The Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God, acting as the source of authority over morality, our beliefs, Christian lifestyle and conduct. The Elder Board is charged with the ministerial responsibility of Biblical interpretation and promulgating religious policy. The Elder Board will determine life application as well as final matters relating to church theology, philosophy, Christian practice, faith, divine truth, morality, and theological and doctrinal resolutions.