

Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

RCBA supports a biblical view of marriage, gender, and sexuality. All board members, faculty, and staff affirm the following statements. It is God who assigns our fundamental human identity and gender. We believe that all humans, male and female, reflect the image of God. A person's gender is sacred and has a divine purpose. We also affirm that God loves all people, including those who struggle with their gender assignment, identity, and expression. Therefore, we are to love all people, regardless of their struggles. The Bible describes human gender in binary terms. Genesis 1:27 provides the definitive statement: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." Our bodies are God's dwelling place. In the context of discussing sexual identity and behavior, the Apostle Paul wrote, "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies."

(1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

Marriage

We believe that God created marriage to be exclusively the union of one man and one woman, and that sexual activity is to occur exclusively within that union. (*Genesis 2:18-25; Ephesians 5:21-23; 1 Corinthians 7:2*)

Gender

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.

(*Genesis 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20*)

Sexuality

We believe that sex is a gift from God that is to be enjoyed with fidelity in the covenant of marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that we are called to chastity in singleness. We believe that sexual relations outside of the covenant of marriage are contrary to the will of God. We believe that the Bible is the final authority regarding sexual behavior.

Examples of sexual behavior forbidden by Scripture may be found in the following passages.

(*Exodus 20:14; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; Hebrews 13:4; Leviticus 18:22, 20:13; Romans 1:26-27*)

River City Believers Academy will uphold the biblical view of marriage, gender, and sexuality and will adhere to its positions on these issues in its teachings, curriculum, and treatment of students.