

## STATEMENT ON MARRIAGE

When it comes to marriage, we want to make it clear where we stand.

We believe the Bible is given to us by God and is the authority as to how we are to live. The Bible consistently describes marriage as a life-long covenant between a man and a woman.

The Bible also consistently describes sexual activity outside of a covenant marriage to be sin, whether homosexual or heterosexual (including pornography). God has not provided us with these boundaries to arbitrarily restrict us, but to allow us to flourish in the way that He designed us.

In light of our culture's move away from God's design for marriage, we urge you to ask yourself the following questions:

1. If married, is your marriage an example to others of what God designed it to be?

- a. Do you submit to one another?
- b. Husbands, do you love your wives sacrificially, as Christ loved the church? Do you provide spiritual leadership in your home by example?
- c. Wives, do you love and respect your husbands?
- 2. If unmarried, are you refraining from sexual activity as the Bible requires?
- 3. To all, as you interact with those whose views on marriage are different from your own, are you doing so from a position of humility, recognizing the depth of your own sin and the magnitude of the grace and compassion that God has extended to you? Do they sense the love of Christ in their interactions with you?

The church is not meant to reflect culture, nor should we expect culture to reflect the church. We are to be a light to the world, showing by example what it looks like to live according to God's design and in the grace of Jesus Christ.

- Pastor Doug and the Elder Board



