

## ALPINE CHURCH - OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON SEXUALITY AND GENDER

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Alpine Church's statement on sexuality and gender flows from our first core value: We look to God and His Word in all we do. This means that all expressions of sexual intimacy outside the bonds of heterosexual marriage are both unbiblical and immoral. Furthermore, God created only two genders; male and female. He determines our gender at conception.

The Bible teaches all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and should seek redemption through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Alpine Church's goal is to help bring transformation to individuals' thoughts/behavior in the light of biblical teachings. (Matthew 11:28–30; Romans 3:23; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Ephesians 2:1–10; Hebrews 2:17–18; 4:14–16).

### AFFIRMATIONS

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In view of the clear biblical teachings on sexual practices, Alpine Church makes the following affirmations:

#### A. DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE

Alpine Church affirms that according to the Bible, marriage is the union of one man and one woman into a lifelong covenant relationship. (Genesis 1:27–28; 2:18–24; Matthew 19:4–9; Mark 10:5–9; Ephesians 5:31–33).

#### B. WITH REGARD TO SEXUAL BEHAVIOR

Alpine Church affirms the Scriptures' prohibition of the following sexual behaviors that include but are not limited to adultery, fornication, incest, bestiality, pornography, prostitution, voyeurism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, polygamy, polyamory, or homosexuality. (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; Ephesians 4:17–19; Colossians 3:5; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Hebrews 13:4).

#### C. WITH REGARD TO GENDER IDENTITY AND TRANSGENDERISM

We affirm God created only two genders; male and female. He determines our gender at conception. Therefore we believe any attempts to deny or physically alter gender are in opposition to God's design and grieve his heart. (Genesis 1:26–28; Romans 1:26–32; 1 Corinthians 6:9–11)

## D. WITH REGARD TO HOMOSEXUALITY

We affirm that all expressions of sexual intimacy outside the bonds of heterosexual marriage are both unbiblical and immoral. Consequently, individuals are to honor God by repenting of and refraining from any same-sex sexual conduct. (Genesis 1:27; 2:24; Matthew 19:4–6; Mark 10:5–9; Romans 1:26–27; 1 Corinthians 6:9–11).

## TRUTH IN LOVE

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As Christians we must exhort believers to live to honor God in every aspect of our lives. To unbelievers we must reach out with compassion and humility, while at the same time not condoning sexual behavior, heterosexual or homosexual, that is outside of God's will.

We desire all to be reconciled to God—to experience the peace and joy that stems from the forgiveness of sin through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. God does not want any to perish in their sins; He invites all to accept His offer of eternal life (John 3:16). As part of His church, we issue that invitation to life in Christ to everyone.

## POLICIES

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### Attending Alpine Church

All are welcome to attend Alpine Church, even those who disagree with our above statement, because we desire that the message of the gospel is heard by everyone. However, any behavior of an individual that distracts from the intent of the service or activity will be addressed by Alpine leadership. Events and groups designated for men are open only to biological males. Events and groups designated for women are open only to biological females.

### Serving at Alpine Church

Serving opportunities for people who practice the behaviors listed above are restricted. These include, but are not limited to, children, youth, worship and welcome ministries. (1 John 3:8-10)

### Wedding Ceremonies

Weddings performed at our facilities and/or officiated by an Alpine Church leader will be limited to marriages between a man and woman as defined above.

### Restroom Use

Restrooms designated for men are open only to biological males. Restrooms designated for women are open only to biological females.