

## "Does God love trans-gender people?"

This question came from one of our confirmation students when we were studying the fact that God created human beings: "male and female He created them." (Genesis 1:27). They qualified their question by saying, "Since they don't accept the way that God made them."

The answer is an unqualified "Yes! He still loves them" I read from Romans 8:38-39 which says this:

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Nothing (!) can cause God to stop loving us! (That includes things you've done and things that have been done to you.)

And I had to clarify my answer by saying that "Even though nothing can keep Him from loving trans-gender people, that doesn't mean God agrees with what they are doing." 'Love' doesn't mean "I'm okay with what you do or want." Rather, 'love' means "I always want what is best for you." AND the God who designed us and gave us life always knows what is best for us! When we do, say, think or live contrary to how God designed us, it hurts Him, because doing, saying, thinking or living the opposite of the way He designed us always hurts us as well! God gave people the gender that they have, therefore, it's not good for people to want to change their God-given gender.

Then someone else followed up with another question: "Is it wrong for someone - like a teacher - to encourage them to change their gender?"

My answer to that question: "Absolutely, it's wrong!" Encouraging a person who has a tendency to want be something other than what God designed is encouraging them to 'defy' rather than 'rely' on God.

I compared encouraging a gender change to encouraging a person who has a tendency toward alcoholism to "go ahead and drink all you want."

We'd all agree that encouraging an alcoholic to drink alcohol would be wrong, because we'd be encouraging them to do something that's not good for them. Encouraging a person to change their gender is wrong for the same reason: It's encouraging them to do something that is not good for them. And it isn't good for them, because that's not how God designed them.

Great questions!

Thanks for asking, Pastor David

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