

Gender Dysphoria

Helping you when you need to say something, but also want to be sensitive and keep the peace.

Navigating this Resource

Below you will find some common conflicts between God's will and human wisdom. The topics are listed in alphabetical order in Forest Green. Under each topic is an example of a common ideology that falls under that topic. Following the ideology are a few possible comments you can make when you want to say something but are also concerned about being sensitive and preserving the friendship. These are not the only response but examples of ways to keep the conversation going while encouraging the person to clarify what they are saying, think more deeply about the subject, and open up an avenue for you to gently offer your concern or alternative viewpoint.

The responses below are best used with the questions posed in our resource Conversations, which can be found following the link below.

A scripture reference at the end of each section informs us of God's will regarding the particular ideology.

Identity

IMPROPER IDEOLOGY: IDENTITY IS WHAT A PERSON THINKS THEY ARE (PSYCHOLOGICAL IDENTIFICATION)

Possible Response:

I'm confused. I've had many times my emotions have fed me lies. Wouldn't this reasoning insinuate no one could encourage a depressed person they have value?

I would not ignore the impact perception can have on a person. But neither would I claim that perception can change the outside world's reality.

Genesis 1:27; Psalm 139:13-17; 1 John 3:2

Love Them

IMPROPER IDEOLOGY: AS A CHRISTIAN, YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO LOVE EVERYONE (I.E., TO GIVE YOUR APPROVAL OR AFFIRM THEM)

Possible Response:

Thomas Sowell says, “When you want to help people, you tell them the truth. When you want to help yourself, you tell them what they want to hear.” Telling people what they want to hear is selfish since your concern is keeping yourself from receiving the blowback from their disagreement.

According to God, love rejoices in the truth (1 Corinthians 13:6).

1 Corinthians 13:6; Titus 1:9; Proverbs 9:8

Themselves (To be)

IMPROPER IDEOLOGY: WE NEED TO ALLOW PEOPLE TO BE WHO THEY FEEL THEY ARE

Possible Response:

Would you say it is loving to agree with an anorexic when they say they are fat and need to take action to become skinnier?

Instead, I would encourage them to see the value in who they are. Why not encourage someone struggling with gender dysphoria to value who they already are?

1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Genesis 1:27; Psalm 139:13-16

We Are Here to Help

Do you have a question that goes deeper than what we have here? Get in touch with us by emailing brueckj@sturgismissionarychurch.com.