

Statement of Corollary Beliefs

Greenhouse Christian Co-School affirms that the Scriptures reveal God's design and intent regarding gender, marriage, sexuality, identity and the sanctity of human life. These biblical standards constitute the consensus of the Christian church, both East and West, for nearly 2000 years. Hence, they are part of our religious belief and practice as a Christian learning community and will be reflected in what is taught and modeled.

- We believe human life begins at conception wherein a unique person is “knit together” in the image of God. Consequently, each life is precious and should be esteemed and protected¹.
- We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct sexes together reflect the image and nature of God². Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of an expression of the image of God within that person. Because the Bible consistently equates biological sex and gender, we make no distinction between the two.
- We believe that the God-ordained context for virtuous sexual expression and procreation is marriage, a lifelong sacred covenant between one man and one woman³. As such, we believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other⁴. This union uniquely reflects Christ's relationship with His Church⁵.
- We believe that the biblical design for human sexuality demands sexual faithfulness for married couples⁶ and chastity for those who are single⁷. All premarital and extra-marital sexual activity (e.g., fornication, adultery, incest, prostitution, homosexual behavior, and all sexual activity involving children) is immoral. And all use or involvement with pornographic materials is sinful, as are all forms of sexual abuse, exploitation, and harassment⁸.
- We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, and seek His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ⁹. We endorse compassion, care, and mercy for all of us who struggle with sexual sin¹⁰. We strive to follow the model of Christ, who did not condemn but called for repentance¹¹.

¹ Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 139:13-16; Exodus 21:22-25

² Genesis 1:26-27; Matthew 19:4

³ Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4-6; Hebrews 13:4

⁴ 1 Corinthians 6:18-7:5; Hebrews 13:4

⁵ Ephesians 5:21-33

⁶ Exodus 20:14; 1 Corinthians 6:13-20

⁷ 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

⁸ Matthew 15:18-20; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Romans 1:26-27

⁹ Acts 3:19-21; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 John 1:9

¹⁰ Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31; Galatians 6:1-2; James 3:17; 5:19-20

¹¹ John 8:1-11

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- We believe that our fundamental identity as humans is that of creatures of God and bearers of His image¹². Further, we believe that our fundamental identity as Christians is that of being children of God and in Christ. Any other identity which one may espouse must be subordinate to and compatible with those fundamental defining identities¹³.
- We believe every person is called to live under various spheres of authority (familial, civic, ecclesiastical), all under the ultimate authority of God¹⁴. God's revealed will is always to be honored and obeyed, even when at odds with the commands of another authority¹⁵. Teachers operate under the delegated authority of parents who are primarily responsible for the training and rearing of their children¹⁶.
- We believe that God alone is self-determinate¹⁷. In contrast, we are not autonomous, that is, a law unto ourselves¹⁸. In keeping with biblical practice of names as being bestowed and received rather than self-selected,¹⁹ students will be called by their given names or such nick names as their parents, who named them, approve.
- We are bidden not to lie or be dishonest²⁰, that is, we are bidden to use words in such a way that they accurately reflect reality. Consequently, we will use pronouns corresponding to one's biological sex at birth as an expression of what is true in accordance with God's creation of humankind as male (he/him/his) and female (she/her/hers). We will seek to season all of our communication with grace and charity²¹.

Every person bears the image of God, and therefore, deserves respect, compassion and charitable words and deeds. We long to see all who struggle with sinful desires or disordered affections (whether sexual or not) to be redeemed, embrace their true identity in Christ, and to seek to know His good and perfect will.

When teaching or discussion in Greenhouse classes or events touches upon the subjects of marriage, gender, sexuality, or identity—whether planned in the curriculum, or spontaneously occurring—the biblical standards contained in this Statement will be upheld by the teacher or event leader.

¹² Genesis 1:26-27

¹³ Galatians 3:26-28

¹⁴ Romans 13:1-7; Ephesians 6:1-4; Exodus 20:12; Hebrews 13:7; 2 Chronicles 20:6

¹⁵ Daniel 3; Daniel 6; Acts 5:27-29

¹⁶ Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4

¹⁷ Exodus 3:14

¹⁸ Philippians 2:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14-16; Ephesians 1:19b-22a; Acts 2:36

¹⁹ Genesis 1:5,8,10; 2:19-24; 3:20; 17:5; 32:28; 1 Samuel 1:20; Luke 1:12-19, 47-64; John 1:42

²⁰ Ephesians 4:15, 25; Exodus 20:16

²¹ Colossians 4:6; Proverbs 15:1-2; 1 Peter 3:15-16