



## HIGHLANDS CHURCH STATEMENT ON MARRIAGE AND SEXUALITY

We believe the Bible is God's Word, without error in its original writings, and therefore serves as the ultimate authority in all matters of faith and life (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

(a) We believe God has commanded that no sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman (Hebrews 13:4; 1 Corinthians 7:2). We believe marriage is an institution created by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union (Genesis 2:24; Mark 10:6-9). We believe the Bible calls any sexual activity outside of that definition of marriage sin, including adultery, fornication, bestiality, incest, pornography, the disagreement with one's biological gender, or the practice of homosexuality (1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Galatians 5:19-21).

(b) We recognize that we are all sinners who have completely fallen short of God's standards (Romans 3:23) and are all in need of His saving grace and forgiveness, which He has offered through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:1-9). We believe everyone is uniquely created in the image of God and should be treated with respect and dignity. There is therefore no place in the church for bigotry, bullying or hate (James 3:5, 9-10).

(c) Everyone who walks through the doors of Highlands is deserving of compassion, kindness, love and respect as we all strive toward the goal of becoming more like Jesus and try our best to walk in obedience to His Word (Colossians 3:12-14). As a church desiring to follow Christ fully, Highlands will endeavor to be a safe place for men and women fighting sexual temptations of all kinds (1 Corinthians 6:18-20; 1 John 1:9; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11).

(d) In order to preserve the function and integrity of the church, it is important to us that everyone employed by Highlands, our members, and those who serve on our volunteer teams, abide by and agree to this Statement on Marriage and Sexuality as we all submit to the authority of God's Word in our lives.



INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(IF APPLICABLE)