

# **THE NASHVILLE STATEMENT – NGMC**

*And He answered and said, “Have you not read, that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE.” ([Matthew 19:4, NASB](#))*

## **Article 1**

WE AFFIRM that God has designed marriage to be an ordered, covenantal, sexual, procreative, lifelong union of one man and one woman, as husband and wife. Through physical, emotional, and spiritual union and love, marriage points to the covenant love between Christ and his bride the church.

WE DENY that God has designed marriage to be a disordered, homosexual, polygamous, or polyamorous relationship. We also deny that marriage is a mere human contract and that a marriage vowed in repudiation of God’s law is lawful.

## **Article 2**

WE AFFIRM that God’s revealed will for all people is chastity outside of marriage and chaste fidelity within marriage.

WE DENY that any affections, desires, or commitments ever justify sexual lusts, intimacy, or intercourse before or outside marriage; nor do they justify any other form of sexual immorality.

## **Article 3**

WE AFFIRM that God created Adam and Eve, the first human beings, in his own image, equal before God as persons, and distinct as male and female. We affirm that man is the glory of God and woman the glory of man, her head.

WE DENY that the divinely ordained differences between male and female render them unequal in dignity or worth.

## **Article 4**

WE AFFIRM that divinely ordained differences between male and female reflect God’s original creation design and are meant for God’s glory and the goodness, fruitfulness, and dominion of all people.

WE DENY that such differences are a result of the Fall or are a tragedy to be overcome.

## **Article 5**

WE AFFIRM that our inward self-conception and outward gender identity must conform to the sex God assigned us at conception, and thus we are to live in obedience to his call evident in our reproductive organs.

WE DENY that physical anomalies or psychological conditions nullify the union God has decreed between biological sex and self-conception and gender identity.

### **Article 6**

WE AFFIRM that those born with a physical disorder of sex development are created in the image of God and have dignity and worth equal to all other image-bearers. They are acknowledged by our Lord Jesus in his words about “eunuchs who were born that way from their mother’s womb.” With all others they are welcome as faithful followers of Jesus Christ and should embrace their biological sex insofar as it may be known.

WE DENY that ambiguities related to a person’s biological sex render one incapable of living a fruitful life in joyful obedience to Christ.

### **Article 7**

WE AFFIRM that inward self-conception and outward gender identity as male or female are defined by God’s holy purposes in creation as revealed in Scripture.

WE DENY that adopting an effeminate\*, homosexual, or transgender inward self-conception or outward gender identity is consistent with God’s holy purposes in creation.

\* We define effeminate as lifestyle choices in defiance of a person’s God-given gender.

### **Article 8**

WE AFFIRM that people who experience sexual attraction for the same sex may live a rich and fruitful life pleasing to God through faith in Jesus Christ, if they, like all Christians, walk in repentance, faith, and purity of life.

WE DENY that sexual attraction for the same sex is part of the natural goodness of God’s original creation, or that it puts a person outside the hope of the gospel.

### **Article 9**

WE AFFIRM that sin distorts sexual desires by directing them away from the marriage covenant and toward sexual immorality—a distortion that includes both heterosexual and homosexual immorality.

WE DENY that an enduring pattern of desire for sexual immorality justifies sexually immoral behaviour or continued lust.

### **Article 10**

WE AFFIRM that it is sinful to approve of homosexual immorality or transgenderism and that such approval constitutes an essential departure from Christian faithfulness and witness, in danger of barring a man or woman from the Kingdom of God.

WE DENY that the approval of homosexual immorality or transgenderism is a matter of moral indifference about which otherwise faithful Christians should agree to disagree.

### **Article 11**

WE AFFIRM our duty to speak in a way that demonstrates the truth and love of our Lord Jesus when we speak to or about one another as male or female.

WE DENY any obligation to speak in such ways that dishonour God's design of his image-bearers as male and female.

### **Article 12**

WE AFFIRM that the grace of God in Christ gives both merciful pardon and transforming power, and that this pardon and power enable a follower of Jesus to put to death sinful desires and to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord.

WE DENY that the grace of God in Christ is insufficient to forgive any sexual sin and to give power for holiness to every believer who feels drawn into sexual sin.

### **Article 13**

WE AFFIRM that the grace of God in Christ enables sinners to forsake transgender self-conceptions and by divine forbearance to accept the God-ordained link between one's biological sex and one's self-conception as male or female.

WE DENY that the grace of God in Christ sanctions self-conceptions that are at odds with God's revealed will.

### **Article 14**

WE AFFIRM that Christ Jesus has come into the world to save sinners and that through Christ's death and resurrection forgiveness of sins and eternal life are given to every person who repents of sin and trusts in Christ alone as Saviour, Lord, and supreme treasure.

WE DENY that the Lord's arm is too short to save or that any sinner is beyond his reach.