## What NGPC Believes Regarding Sex, Gender and Marriage (Short Statement)

God established a good order in his creation in which humans are either male or female sharing a common humanity, dignity and worth, and gender identity is determined by one's biological sex.

Men and women are equally created in God's image and are to express their gender in complementary relationships, especially in a loving marriage, which is the only proper setting for sexual intercourse and is the divinely ordained environment for the raising and nurturing of children. Married couples are commanded by God to be faithful.

Modern Western culture has promoted a world view in which each person is free to determine their own identity and moral framework; and assumes that diversity, including gender and sexual diversity, is a good in itself; and that pleasure and comfort are primary.

Christ calls all people, though lost in sin, to come to him to be reconciled to God and to discover their true humanity in his service. Sinners come to God as he works by his Spirit to lead them to love him, and he reorders their desires and behaviour to conform to Christ.

In Christ, his people find their true humanity and a new identity, irrespective of their gender, sexuality, marital status, family background, social status or ethnicity. Christ is the answer to the underlying problems for all people — including those facing sexual temptation, the consequences of sexual sin, broken and difficult marriages, loneliness, shame, and gender confusion.

God does not promise to heal all broken bodies or human relationships nor to end temptation, nor remove homosexual attraction, gender confusion or other burdens in this life. He promises that, because we are his chosen, redeemed and sanctified children, his grace will be sufficient in all our trials. He also promises that on the return of Christ all his people will receive resurrected and restored bodies and enjoy full communion with him in a world of righteousness freed from curse and frustration.

(see the NGPC website for the <u>full statement</u> on what we believe on this subject)