

A Christian Response to Gender Dysphoria

The Individual Story

- Why? Trying to deal with some pain, confusion, distress
 - Which question: *Who* am I? or *How* am I?
 - Community of others who accept them
 - What can we do? First, listen with respect
- Case: 27-year old female detransitioner
- Wide culture—the importance of truth

Male and Female in the Image of God: Genesis 1:27

- Our bodies are essential to bearing God’s image
- Male and female are categories of sex, not gender
- Adam and Eve’s bodies are viewed as sacred (Genesis 2:21–22)
- Jesus views Genesis 1–2 as normative (Matthew 19:4–5)
- Paul sees the body as significant for moral behavior and essential to personhood (1 Corinthians 6:19–20)
- Scripture prohibits cross-sex behavior (Deuteronomy 22:5; 1 Corinthians 6:9)
- The incarnation of Christ affirms the goodness of our sexed embodiment
- The body will be raised on the Last Day

Identity as Given and Shaped by Vocation

- The Church as refuge/fortress
- Different language than the world’s way of speaking/thinking (“a more excellent way”)
- *Christianos sum*