

Title: The Gift of Gender

Reading: Ephesians 5:1-21

Pastoral Heart Behind this Message

1. A love for secret sufferers
2. A desire for believers to have timeless wisdom

Main Point: Gender is a gift from God.

Gender should be received and celebrated as a gift because:

1. The two genders are designed to multiply life

- Cite: Genesis 1:27-28

Implication: One of the most influential things you can do in a hostile world is value children.

2. The two genders reflect the image of God

- Cite: Genesis 1:27-28

Implication 1: Your worth is rooted in the unchanging image of God.

Implication 2: No one is born into the wrong body.

- Cite: Ephesians 5:2

3. Two Genders Point Us to the Goodness of God

- Cite Romans 1:20

Implication: The created world has fixed realities (like gender) so that we would have a reason for trusting that God's promise to save is also fixed and reliable.

Principles to Apply in the Light of God's Word on Gender

- Recognize the difference between agendas and people.
- Recognize the difference between tolerance and approval.
- Be confident in God's word.
- Tell the truth.
- Be on guard against "new doctrine".

- Pray boldly.
- Be merciless to your own sin.
- Be joyful and grateful for your spouse and children.

Resources referenced or recommended for further study:

- "Five Lies of Our Anti-Christian Age" by Rosaria Butterfield
- "The Secret Thoughts of An Unlikely Convert" by Rosaria Butterfield
- "Transgendered to Transformed" by Laura Perry
- "Gender Ideology" by Sharon James
- The testimony of Sophia Galvin (rainbowredemptionproject.com)
- "What Does the Bible Really Teach About Homosexuality?" by Kevin DeYoung
- "Loudoun County Students Stage Walk-Outs to Protest Sexual Assault in Schools," National Review, October 26, 2021, <https://www.nationalreview.com>