

The Gender-Stereotyping God

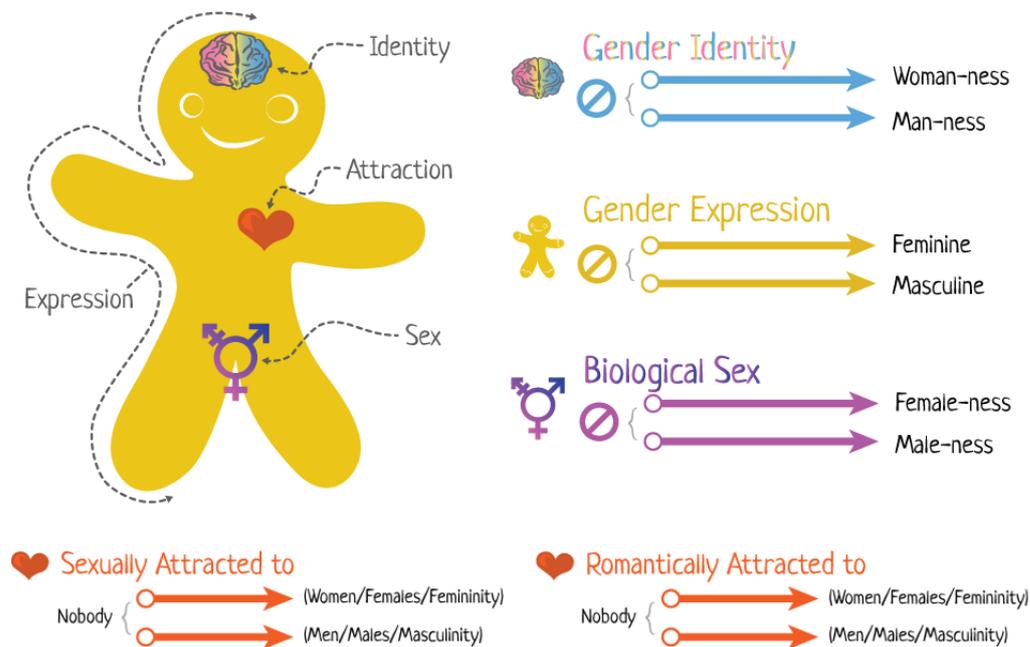
Discussion Questions

- What has been your view /understanding of sex and gender to this point?
- See attached “Recent Understanding on Gender” attached document
 - o How much of this do you agree / disagree with?
- What was God’s original creation like regarding sex and gender?
 - o Genesis 1:26-27; 2:18-25
- What happened?
 - o Genesis 3:6-7
- What were some of the results of this?
 - o Genesis 3:16-19, Matt 19:12, Romans 5:12, 5:15-19
- “Gender dysphoria is a matter of brokenness, not sinfulness”
 - o What do you think of this approach?
 - o What does the word “brokenness” suggest to you?
 - o Who in the world is “unbroken”?
 - o Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-9
- Consider three options for transgender people
 - o Individualism – I am who I say I am
 - o Psychological brokenness – My body is what gender I “really” am
 - o Biological brokenness – My mind is what gender I “really” am
 - What is your perspective on these options?
- What do you think of the following quote by non-Christian feminist author Alice Dreger:

But by not “changing or directing” the child’s understanding—by “affirming” a “transgender” identity as soon as it appears—the clinician might actually be stimulating and cementing a transgender identity. (Consider by analogy how telling a girl who says she hates math that “math is for boys” can stimulate and cement that gendered self-identity.) Maybe the child who is “affirmed” will be just as well off with a transgender identity as she would have been without, but the fact is that being transgender generally comes with non-trivial medical interventions, including hormonal and surgical.

- How would you relate to a Christian friend who has transgender feelings?
- How would you relate to a non-Christian friend who has transgender feelings?
 - o What do they need most of all?
- As Christians, what do we hope for? Read Romans 8:18-24

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Terminology

- BIOLOGICAL SEX – Usually presence of Y chromosome = male
- GENDER ROLE / EXPRESSION – Refers to society’s idea of how boys or girls or men and women are expected to behave and should be treated – The display of a gender role reveals a public manifestation of gender identity
- GENDER IDENTITY – The way one views themselves as a male or female, inner conviction of identification, a young child’s developing a fundamental sense of belonging to one sex and not the other
- SEXUAL ORIENTATION/ATTRACTION – A person’s relative responsiveness to sexual stimuli – usually how someone defines homosexual, heterosexual, bisexual

- Intersex / Hermaphrodite (old term) – person born with indeterminate genitals
- Transvestite – person of one gender who dresses like the other, usually still Identifies as their biological sex
- Transgender / Transexual – person whose sexual identity is the opposite of their chromosomal gender (if seeking/undergoing a change, usually they would be referred to as transsexual rather than transgender)
- GenderQueer – catch-all category for genders that are not exclusively male or female (overlap, two or more genders, agender, third gender, fluctuating)

- Gender Dysphoria – the **distress** that may accompany the incongruence (mismatch) between one’s experienced (usually gender identity) or expressed gender and one’s assigned (usually