

Connection Church's Convictions on Social Issues

**We aren't highlighting these areas because they are worse than others, but because they are highly debated in our culture. We want to equip you to align with the Bible and handle these issues in a way that honors God.*

Abortion

At Connection, we stand against abortion. Though the Bible never specifically addresses the issue of abortion, there are numerous teachings in Scripture that make it abundantly clear what God's view of abortion is. God is clear that He created each of us and formed us in our mother's wombs (Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139:13-16). We believe that God views the taking of a life, baby in the womb or adult, as murder. However, for those who have had an abortion, we believe that God still offers grace and forgiveness, and we would love to walk with you through this healing process.

Homosexuality

We believe that homosexuality is a sin. However, the Bible does not describe it as a "greater" sin than any other. It is just one of the many things listed in 1 Corinthians 6:9-10. The Bible tells us that people become homosexuals because of sin (Romans 1:24-27) and ultimately because of their own choice. At Connection, we believe that God's forgiveness is available to all who repent (*turn from their sin*) and put their faith in Jesus.

Divorce

At Connection, we believe that God created marriage as a covenant to reflect His love for us (Ephesians 5:22-33). By definition, a covenant is designed to be permanent. Thus, we will never counsel someone toward a divorce, but will instead always counsel people toward forgiveness and reconciliation. Affairs do not end marriages, according to Jesus, hardness of heart is at the root of people choosing to divorce their spouse (Matthew 19:8; Malachi 2:16). The only time we counsel someone toward a separation is if abuse or illegal activity is occurring and a temporary separation is necessary for safety and to move toward reconciliation.

Alcohol

We do not believe that drinking alcohol is a sin, as Scripture never teaches that (Ecclesiastes 9:7; Psalm 104:14-15). However, Scripture is clear that getting drunk, or willfully being controlled by anything other than the Holy Spirit is sin (Ephesians 5:18; 1 Corinthians 6:12). Also, abuse of any substance (alcohol, drugs, food) is condemned in the Bible and is clearly sinful. At Connection, we teach that underage drinking is wrong because Scripture clearly tells us to submit to the governing authorities (Romans 13:1).

We also know that God's word talks about not causing other people to stumble just because you are expressing your freedom in Christ. We believe every Christian should be wise about when and where they partake of alcohol if they choose to do so (Matthew 18:7-9).

Sex Outside of Marriage

We believe that sex outside of the covenant of marriage is sin (1 Corinthians 6:18; Galatians 5:19). The Bible refers to this as "sexual immorality" which includes premarital sex, pornography, lust, homosexual relations, adultery, and any other kind of sexual relations outside of the marital covenant. The Bible is clear that God created sex and He alone can define the parameters for its use. God's Word is very clear that sex was created to be enjoyed between one man and one woman who are inside the covenant of marriage (Hebrews 13:4). Anything outside of that is sinful. For those who have fallen into the trap of sexual immorality, we believe that God offers forgiveness in Jesus and wants to help you abstain until marriage.

Gender and Sexuality

We believe that even though our culture has an ever-evolving definition of marriage, gender and sexuality, it is God alone, as creator, who has ultimate authority to prescribe and describe the marital relationship as well as human gender and sexuality. (Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:1-9, Mark 10:1-12). As a consequence, we regard any and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography or even lustful intent toward such, as sinful and ultimately unsatisfying. Moreover, we also regard as sinful the intent or desire to surgically alter one's biological sex to a different sex. Since the body is a creation of God, we hold sexual identity to be biologically determined, and associated gender norms are to be observed as appropriate to biblical standards. Disagreement with one's biological sex only leads to spiritual confusion and emotional chaos (Genesis 1:27, Romans 1:26-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11). Though sinful sexual expression is egregious (as is all sin), at Connection we believe the Gospel provides redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Ephesians 2:1-10, Titus 3:3-7) and we desire to walk with anyone through a process of healing and restoration.