

Godly Living in Today's World

Equipping us to understand and help Christians who experience SSA and/or Gender confusion.

As we look forward to the One Day Conference with Revd. Dr Sean Doherty and Jeanette Howard; they come to teach us about the difficult pastoral areas of sexual identity. They write:



Today's Western society is all about individualism: i.e.

- 'I am who I say I am'.
- 'My feelings are truth and that truth determines who I am'.
- 'My truth is expressed through my identity' and 'every relationship I enter is negotiable depending on my truth and your truth'.
- 'I am not content with you merely tolerating my truth but insist that you welcome and encourage me in this journey of self-discovery. Any questioning of my truth and disagreement with my facts will be considered as hateful and harmful to my overall sense of well-being. These negative feelings are unacceptable and may result in legal action.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow in my footsteps he must give up all right to himself, take up his cross and follow me. For the man who wants to save his life will lose it; but the man who loses his life for my sake will find it. Matthew 16:24-25 (JB Philips)

The gap between God's ways and the attitude and behaviour of the world seem most discordant around the areas of abortion, gender identity, and sexual expression. While that should not surprise us for Satan's aim is to steal, to kill, and to destroy (John 10:10). We can feel ill-equipped to stand firm against the onslaught.

Unfortunately, individualistic thinking is not confined to the world, but now has a place within the body of Christ where 'progressive Christianity' has a seat in all the high places within every denomination. Scripture is being fulfilled.

For the time is coming when men will not tolerate wholesome teaching. They will want something to tickle their own fancies, and they will collect teachers who will pander to their own desires. They will no longer listen to the truth, but will wander off after man-made fictions. 2 Timothy 4: 3-4 (JB Philips)

These are very difficult times for church leaders and teachers who believe in traditional biblical teaching.

Converts today often lack a foundational Judeo/Christian ethos that was once the bedrock of British society but walk into a faith completely ignorant of its history or promise.

Overnight it seems, life-long believers are changing their minds on celibacy, chastity, and marriage. A loved one declares that they are gay and familial love, it appears, is stronger than biblical truth.

- What are we to consider?
- What is the truth?
- We know what God is against, but what is God for?
- How do we exhort, challenge, encourage, and walk alongside Christian men and women who experience thoughts, feelings, and desires that are incongruent with biblical truth?
- Where does a Christian who experiences SSA or gender dysphoria begin?
- How does a church congregation turn belief into practical action?



Using biblical principles, personal testimony, real life stories, and years of practical application, Jeanette Howard and Sean Doherty will address these questions and more during one busy but encouraging day.