

What must I do to inherit eternal life?

What is written?
How do you read?
(Luke 10:26)

Vincent Van Gogh, *The Good Samaritan*, 1890



A high view of scripture



A community shaped by practices of reading the Bible

“The contemporary church—imperfect, struggling—identifies with the primitive church—imperfect, struggling—only when it shares in identifying *practices*, including communal practices of scripture interpretation.”

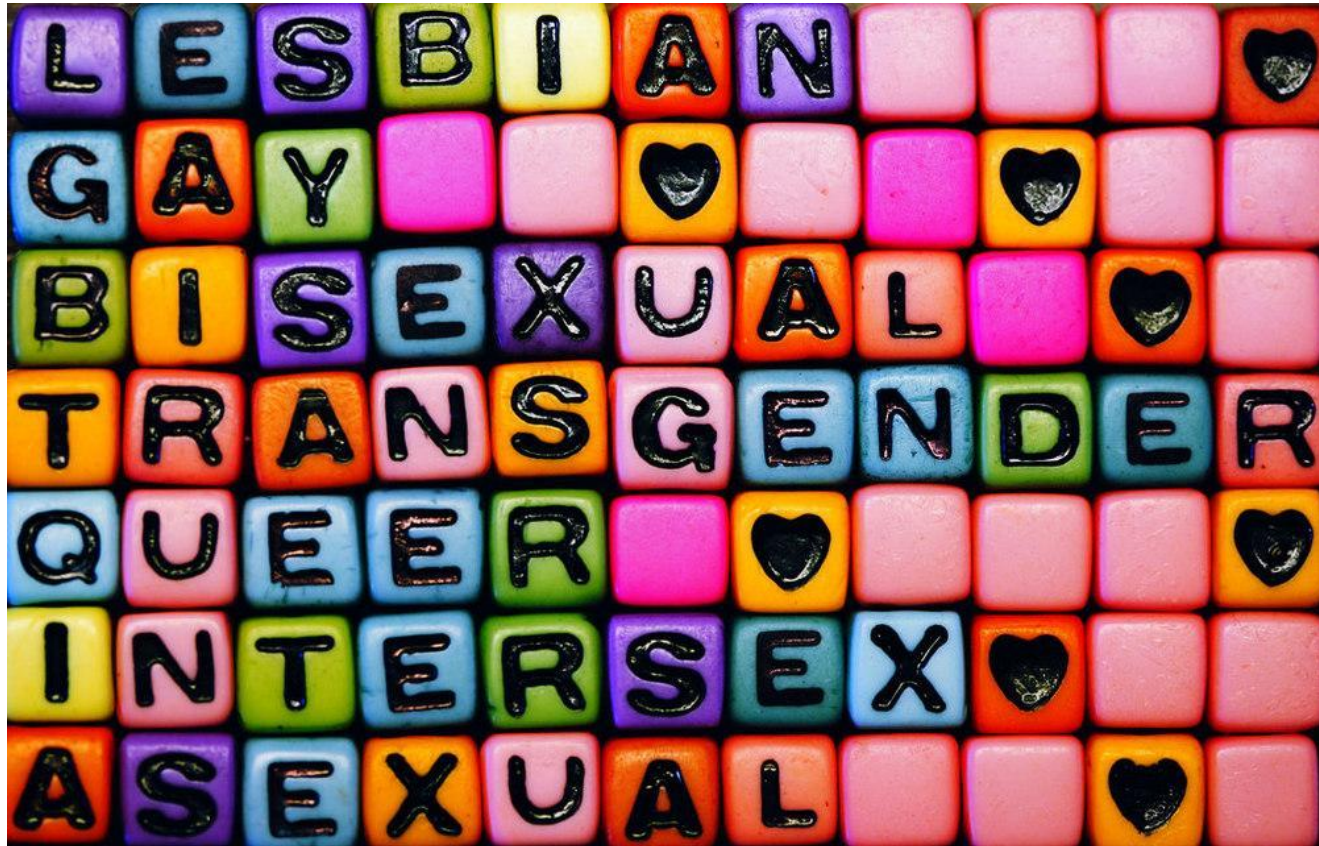


(Ryan Andrew Newson, *Inhabiting the World*, drawing on theologian and ethicist Nancey Murphy, 166-67.)

How do you read?

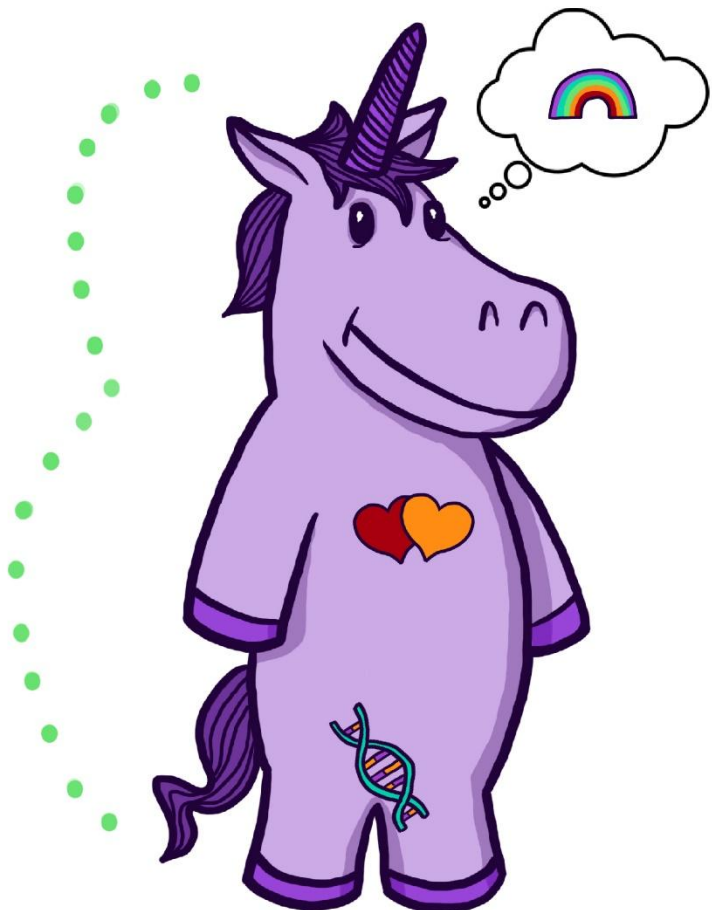


LGBTQ+



The Gender Unicorn

Graphic by:
TSER
Trans Student Educational Resources



Gender Identity

-  Female/Woman/Girl
-  Male/Man/Boy
-  Other Gender(s)

Gender Expression

-  Feminine
-  Masculine
-  Other

Sex Assigned at Birth

-  Female
-  Male
-  Other/Intersex

Physically Attracted to

-  Women
-  Men
-  Other Gender(s)

Emotionally Attracted to

-  Women
-  Men
-  Other Gender(s)

To learn more, go to:
www.transstudent.org/gender

Design by Landyn Pan and Anna Moore

Interpreting Genesis

“In the image of God... male and female God created them.” (1:27)

“And indeed, it was very good.” (1:31)

“It is not good that the earth creature [the man] should be alone...” (2:18)

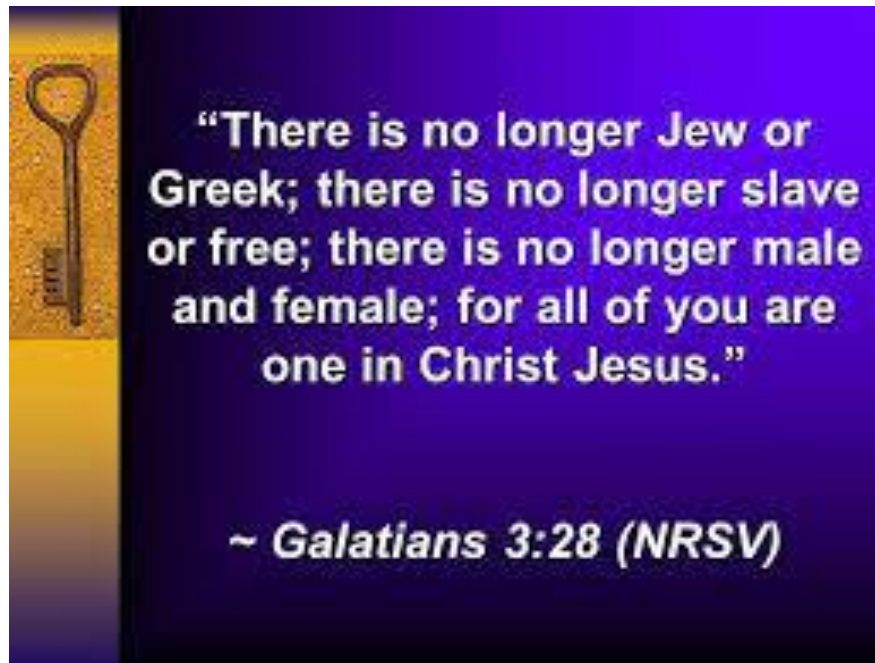
“...bone of my bones, flesh of my flesh” (2:23)

“Leaves ... cleaves ... they become one flesh.” (2:24)



Marc Chagall, Creation, 1958

A pronouncement at baptism



“In the image of God... male and female God created them.” (1:27)

A hard saying of Jesus

There be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it.

Matthew 19:12

Like angels in heaven...



Catacomb of Saint Priscilla, Rome, Fresco
From the cubiculum of the veiled woman
Third century A.D.



Giotto, From the Life of Christ, 1304-1306

Gender fluidity in early Christian narrative



Saint Thecla with Wild
Beasts and Angels

Coptic

5th century C.E.

Limestone

3 3/4 x 25 1/2 inches

Nelson-Atkins Museum of
Art, Kansas City

Gender fluidity in early Christian narrative

Robert Lentz, a Franciscan friar
Icon of "Perpetua and Felicity"

in "Christ in the Margins,"
illustrated book by Robert Lentz
and Edwina Gateley.



Abraham's lesson in statecraft



From then to now

Themes:

- Statecraft involves advocacy for the vulnerable – minorities, foreigners, girls
- Breakdowns in social order are marked by predatory sexual violence
- Hospitality is a sacred virtue and includes protection from sexual violence

What principles guide your interpretations?



Jesus

Justice, Covenant, Hospitality

Biblical legacies we own

Death and destruction?



The Statistics



SOURCE: NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE POLICY INSTITUTE

58% of LGBT homeless youths have been sexually assaulted



33% of heterosexual homeless youths have been sexually assaulted



SOURCE: NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

3/
5

of LGBT students report feeling unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation

SOURCE: CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS

How do you read? Perhaps we agree...

All humans are made in the image of God

Biblical views of gender seem both fixed and fluid

Predatory or exploitative sexuality is sin

Hospitality matters

Those with less social power need protection

All humans are made in the image of God

