

## STATEMENT ON IDENTITY, SEXUALITY AND GENDER

We believe in the Lordship of Christ over all of life. We believe we are called to be faithful disciples of Christ, pursuing our callings in love and obedience until He comes again to consummate His kingdom. We believe that God's commandments are relevant and necessary to our present culture and that our faith should be visible in concrete models of personal and social behavior. We recognize that sins of a sexual nature often receive great attention, while other sins such as greed, slander, gossip, neglect of the poor, oppressed and marginalized do not. While rapidly changing cultural trends warrant an expanded statement on identity, sexuality and gender, we are concerned with the impact of all parts of our fallen nature.

Therefore, we submit to the following truths:

## **IDENTITY**

- God creates all people as divine image-bearers who have inestimable value and dignity from conception to death.
- All forms of mistreatment, oppression, cruelty, dehumanization, abuse and slander are an offense against God's sacred image which has been stamped on all people.
- A Christian's identity is in Jesus Christ alone and is not found in a self-ascribed or cultural identity.

## **SEXUALITY**

- God decreed marriage to be a covenantal relationship between one man and one woman that reflects Christ's relationship with the Church.
- God's will for all people is chastity outside of marriage and fidelity within marriage. No affections, desires, or commitments ever justify sexual acts outside of marriage.
- Geneva students, faculty and staff should resist any and all same-sex sexual attractions and refrain from any and all same sexual acts or expressions.

## **GENDER**

 God created male and female with the distinct and biological sex of each person immutably determined and manifested at conception by God.