



MARRYING TRUTH AND LOVE

PREPARING FOR AND SPEAKING ABOUT LGBTQIA+

Pastor Greg Lyon

2023 WELS National Conference on Lutheran Leadership

YOU DID NOT COME TO THIS
PRESENTATION NEUTRALLY

WHAT BELIEFS ARE YOU BRINGING?

WHAT HISTORY ARE YOU BRINGING?

WHAT EMOTIONS ARE YOU BRINGING?

TRUE TRANS

WITH
LAURA JANE GRACE

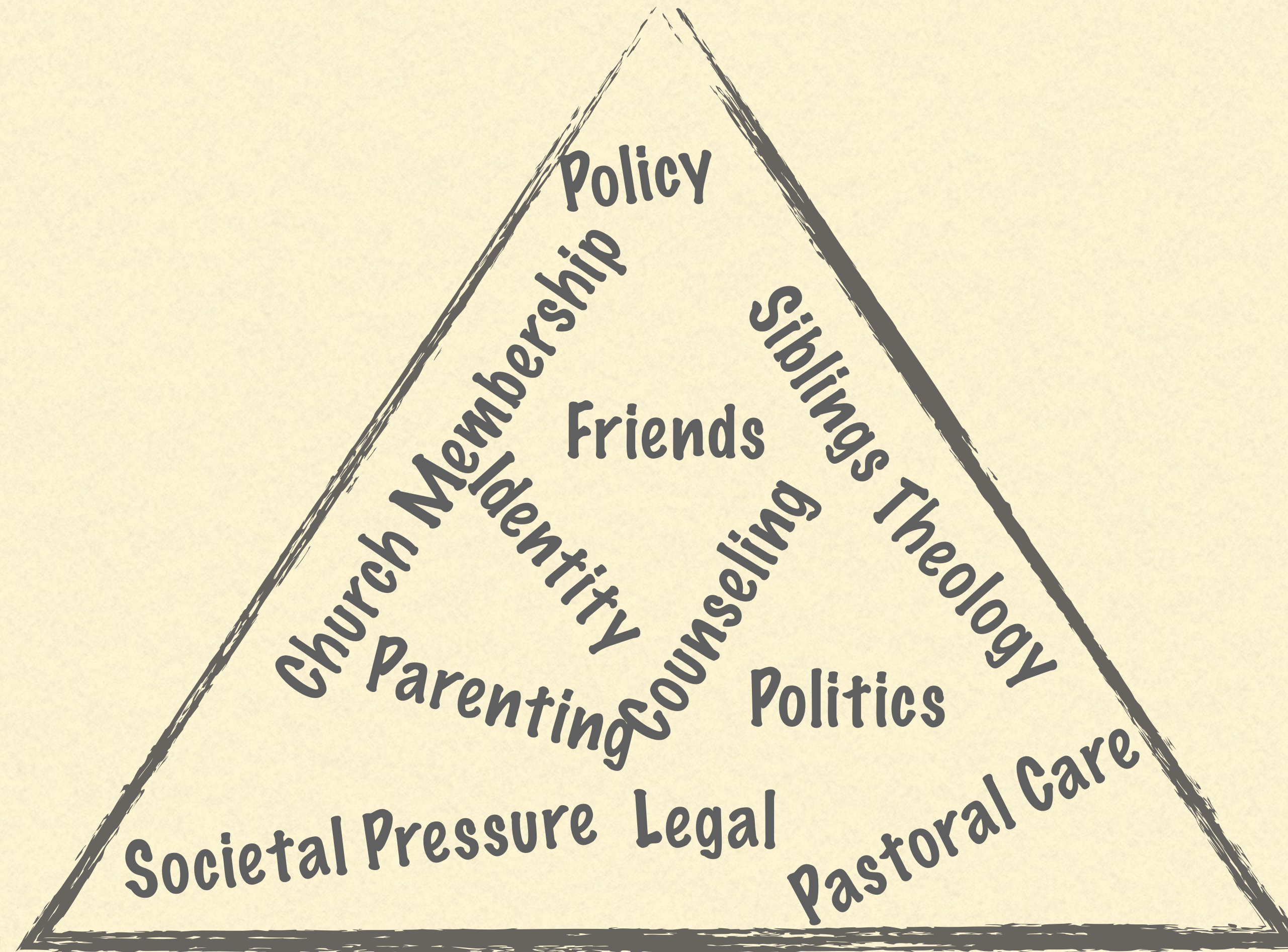
Ep. 2



WHERE I'M AT

LOVE

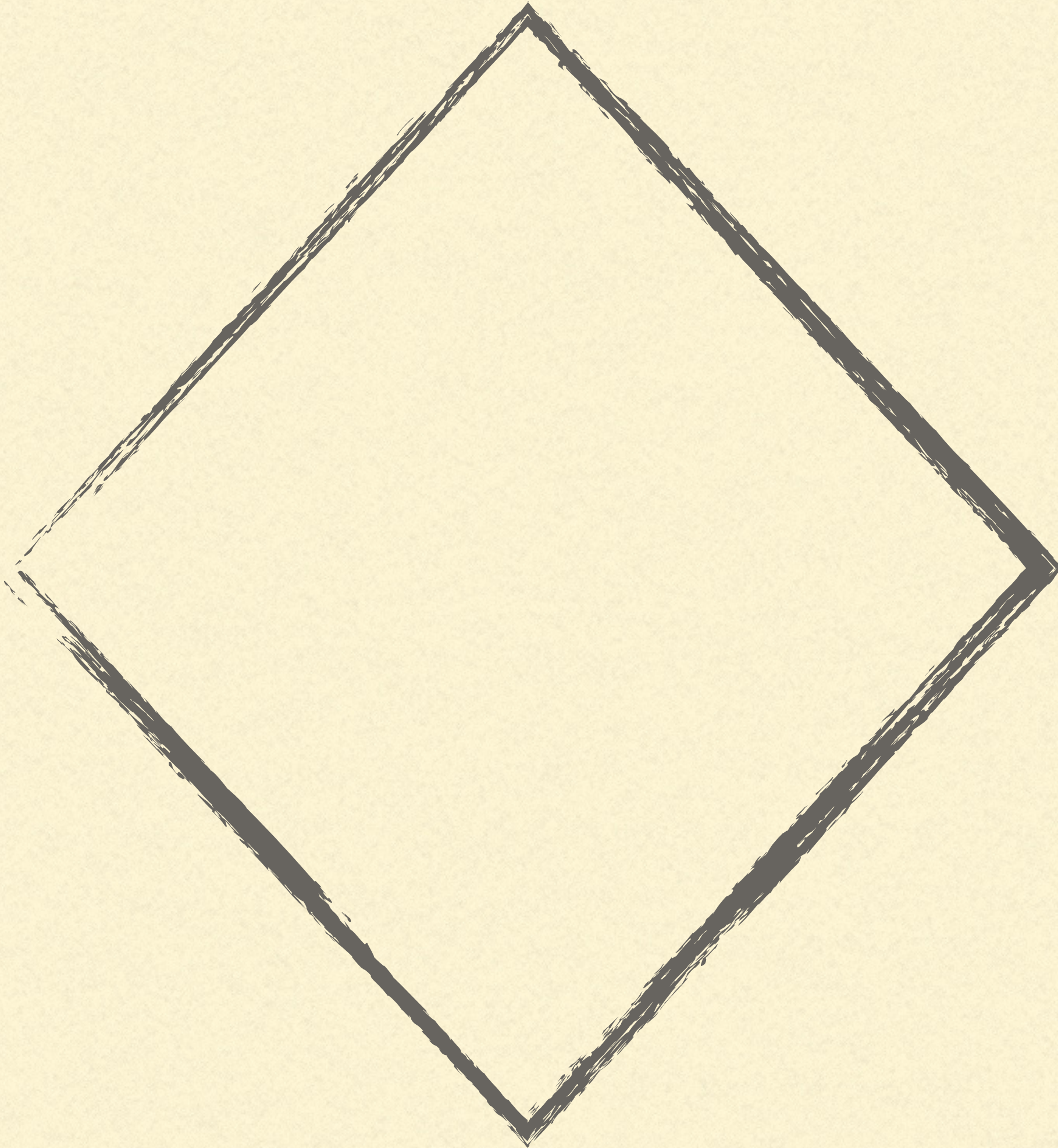
TRUTH



WHERE I'M AT

LOVE

TRUTH



TRUTH AND LOVE



TRUTH

“Unless something bad happens to me, I mostly take my body for granted, like the air I breathe. Even though it is my constant companion, I seldom consider how I relate to it and what it is meant to be. Yet it is, or should be, obvious how important it is to me and the people around me. It locates me in a particular place at a particular time with particular people in my particular society, family, marriage, and workplace. I am born with my body and die when it can no longer sustain me. The pattern of my life as a whole involves me with my body from childhood to adolescence, marriage to parenthood, employment to retirement, old age to death. My body also marks the daily rhythm of my life with waking and sleeping, dressing and undressing, working and resting from work, eating and drinking, engaging in sexual intercourse and disengaging from it. It governs how I interact with others and how they interact with me. I experience the world around me through it. I live with my body and do everything with it. My human life is, most obviously and simply, life in the body. Yet I did not make my body; it was given to me and remains given to me as a foundation for my life here on earth. It is never apart from me, nor am I ever apart from it for as long as I live here.”

— *Wonderfully Made by John Kleinig*



GOD CREATED ALL HUMANITY: BODY AND SOUL, MALE AND FEMALE, SEX AND GENDER.



SIN HAS INFECTED ALL HUMANITY: BODY AND SOUL, MALE AND FEMALE, SEX AND GENDER. THIS AFFECTS NOT ONLY OUR BODIES BUT ALSO OUR THINKING, WILLING AND FEELING.



THE EFFECTS OF SIN DO NOT CHANGE THE ESSENCE OF GOD'S GOOD CREATION: BODY AND SOUL, MALE AND FEMALE, SEX AND GENDER.

DISCUSSING THEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES WITH YOUR LGBTQ CHILD



LOVE

SEEK FIRST TO UNDERSTAND AND THEN TO
BE UNDERSTOOD.

WOULD YOU RATHER WIN A FIGHT OR A
SOUL?

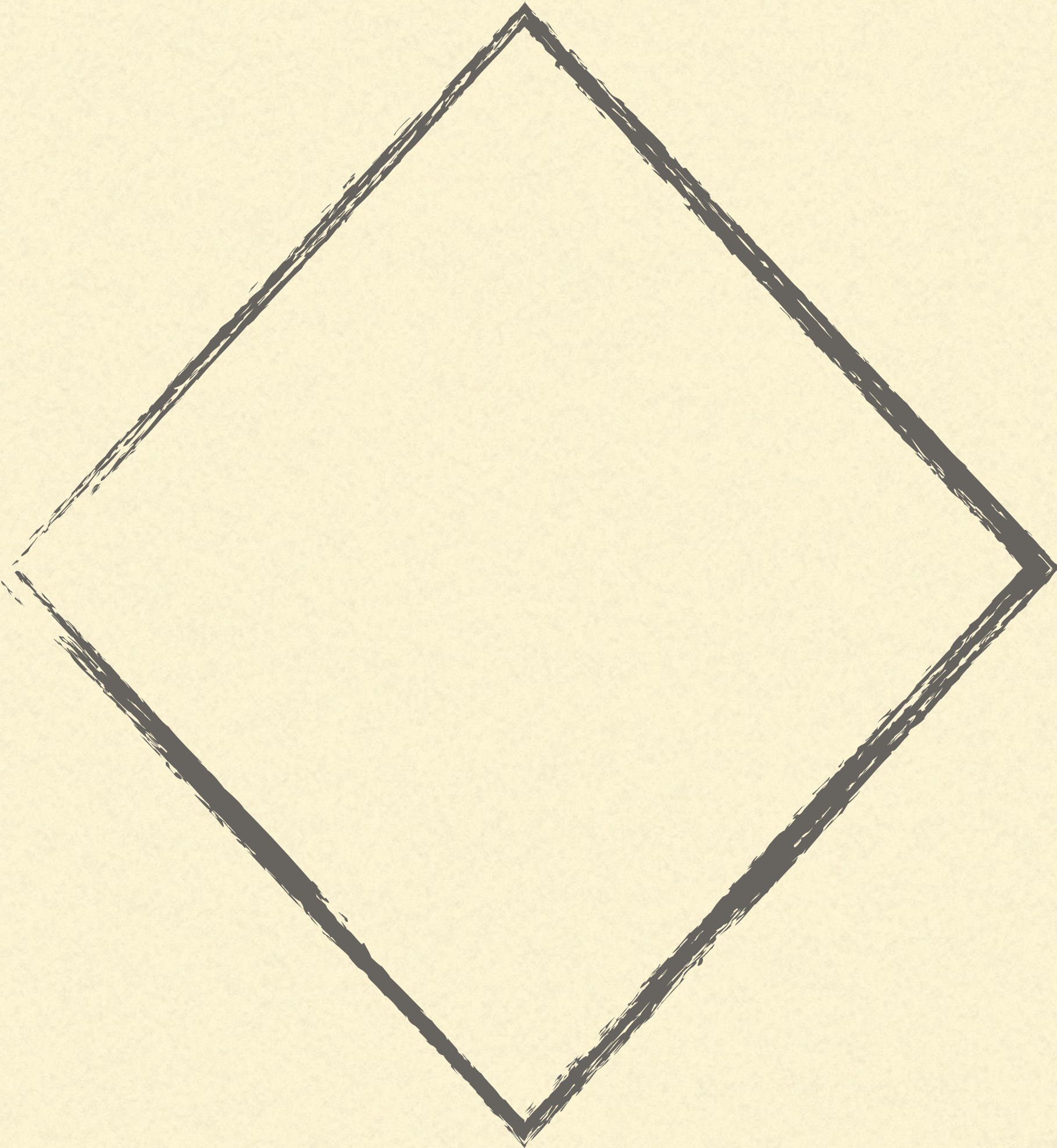
GOD'S GRACE SHOWERS DOWN ON THE
RIGHTEOUS AND THE UNRIGHTEOUS ALIKE.
ARE THERE WAYS THAT YOURS CAN TOO?

THE VALUE OF LISTENING TO YOUR LGBTQ CHILD

WHERE I'M AT

LOVE

TRUTH



TRUTH AND LOVE

Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

– *Mark 10:21*

Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.

— *Luke 7:44*



WHEN MARRYING TRUTH AND LOVE,
REMEMBER

When Marrying Truth and Love, Remember

YOUR LENS

Integrity

Disability

Diversity



When Marrying Truth and Love, Remember

YOUR LUTHERAN HERITAGE

Biblical Anthropology

Sinner / Saint

Justification / Sanctification



When Marrying Truth and Love, Remember

Sin and Grace

Baptismal and Vocational
Identity

Proper Distinction Between
Law and Gospel

Theology Is Lived



When Marrying Truth and Love, Remember

TWO KINGDOMS

Handbook Policies

Outreach Can Be Messy

Avoid Encouraging / Walk With



When Marrying Truth and Love, Remember

HUMANS ARE
COMPLEX

Your perfect body is complex

Your fallen body is complex



When Marrying Truth and Love, Remember

YOU ARE NOT YOUR
OWN

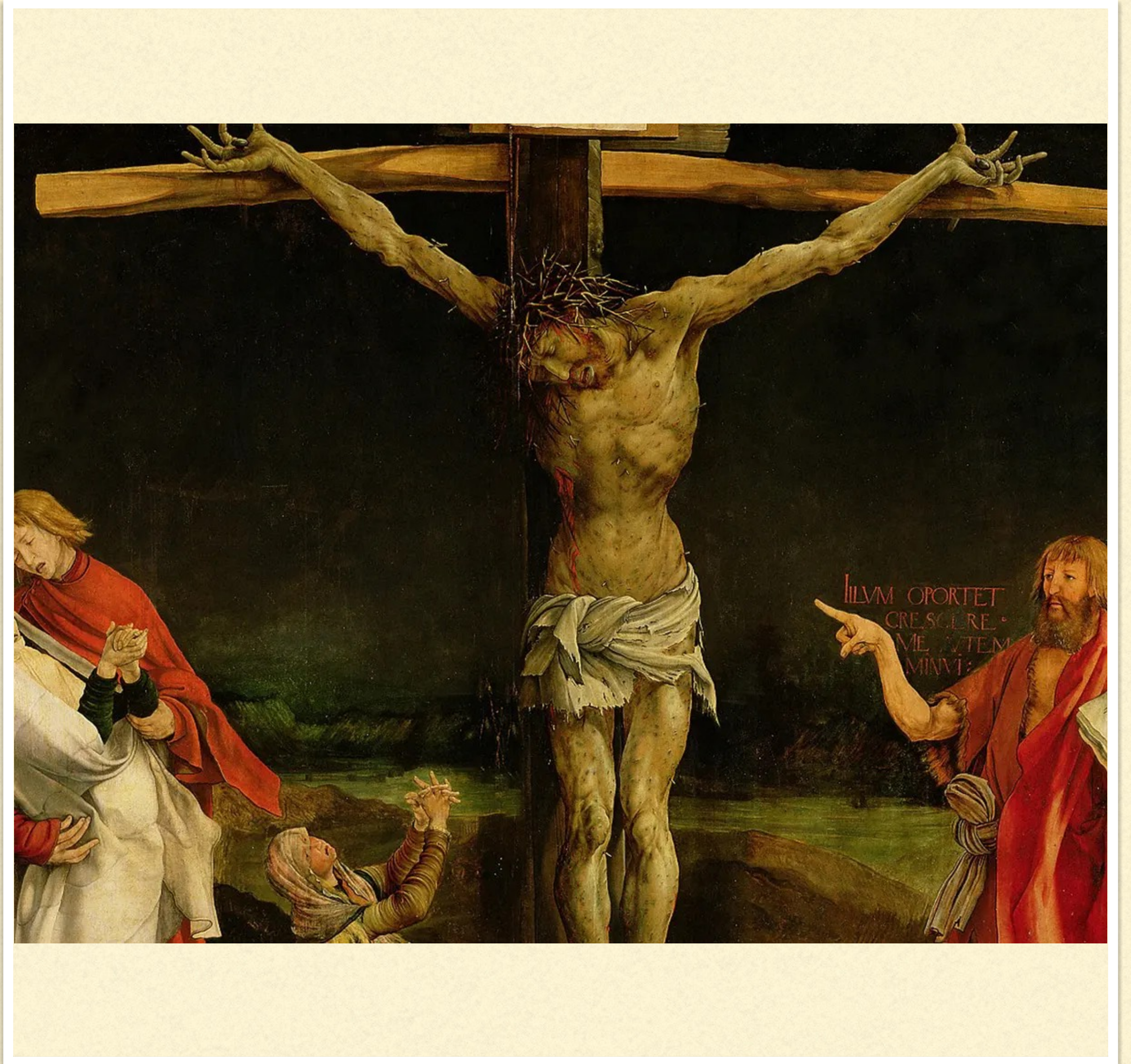


“If I belong to myself, then I am the only one who can set limits on who I am or what I can do. No one else has the right to define me, to choose my journey in life, or to assure me that I am okay. I belong to myself. But the freedom of sovereign individualism comes at a great price. Once I am liberated from all social, moral, natural, and religious values, I become responsible for the meaning of my own life. With no God to judge or justify me, I have to be my own judge and redeemer. This burden manifests as a desperate need to justify our lives through identity crafting and expression. But because everyone else is also working frantically to craft and express their own identity, society becomes a space of vicious competition between individuals vying for attention, meaning, and significance, not unlike the contrived drama of reality TV.”

— *You Are Not Your Own: Belonging to God in an Inhuman World*, Alan Noble

When Marrying Truth and Love, Remember

YOU WERE BOUGHT
AT A PRICE



WHAT YOUR SYNOD IS DOING FOR YOU

- Brief Summary Statement on Human Sexuality with Bullet Point Summary
 - Creating a website with available resources for individuals (struggling and supporting those who struggle) as well as reviews of existing resources.
 - Creating a private website space to make contacts for legal consultation, policy templates, PR support
 - Creating a speakers bureau available for presentations
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