## Marriage, Divorce, Gender and Sexuality

When God created Adam and Eve, he created male and female. We believe that His plan for creation is perfect, and that these two, distinct but complementary genders reflect the relational nature of the triune God. We believe that sexual intimacy, as created and designed by God, is holy and beautiful, but only within the bounds of marriage. We believe the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the sacred union of one man and one woman into a single, exclusive covenant, as shown in the Scriptures. Though marriage is intended to be permanent, God allows for divorce in cases of sexual adultery and abandonment (including physical and emotional abuse). We believe that all sexual intimacy outside of marriage, and all sexual immorality mentioned in the Scriptures, are sinful and fall outside of the Will of God. We also believe that our desire, as God's children, should be to become more Christ-like in how we live our daily lives and to align ourselves with God's perfect Will. We believe we live in a fallen world and that we are all sinful, imperfect and broken beings. We believe God loves us, no matter our sins, and we are saved only by God's grace through faith in Christ and His death and resurrection, and in Him, we can be new creations. Since God loves us while we are yet sinners, our call is to love all people, to not stand in judgment or condemnation, and to welcome all at Crossroads. (Genesis 1:26-28; 2:18-25, Hebrews 13:1-4, John 8:7-11, Romans 1:26-32; 3:23; 5:8; 13:8-10, 1 Timothy 1:8-11, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 17-20; 7:1-15, Leviticus 18:22; 20:13, Mark 10:6-9, Matthew 5:28, 18:15-17, 19:4-12; Ephesians 5:1-3, 21-33)

If you need more information, or would like to discuss these issues further, please contact the church offices and ask to speak to one of our pastors.