



Statement on Principles on Marriage and Singleness Affirmations and Denials

The following statements are a series of affirmations and denials with respect to the principles of marriage and singleness that represent the foundational biblical truths that are embraced, taught, and lived out by Trinity College of Florida. Our understanding of marriage and singleness is grounded in the inerrant Word of God, which is the absolute and final authority for us as Christians for all of life and practice. They are presented in a series of Articles with relevant topics and accompanying Scripture references.

Article 1: Marriage Roles

We affirm that God, in his wisdom, appointed unique and complementary roles within marriage, according to creation, and as a type of the relationship between Christ and the church (Genesis 2:15, 18; Ephesians 5:22–33; 1 Peter 3:1–7).

We deny that the distinct, God-given roles of husbands and wives or of fathers and mothers are inconsequential, interchangeable, or indistinct from one another.

Article 2: Husbands

We affirm that, as Christ is the head of the church, a husband is the head of his wife and should display sacrificial and loving headship in marriage, bearing a particular accountability before God in the leadership of the home (Ephesians 5:22–33, 1 Peter 3:7).

We deny that a husband's headship is inherently oppressive to his wife. We deny that either spouse should ever domineer, manipulate, neglect, or abuse the other spouse, and we deny that these behaviors should ever be overlooked or permitted when brought to the attention of church leaders.

Article 3: Wives

We affirm that, as the church submits to Christ, a wife should submit to her husband and should display joyful respect and help in marriage (Ephesians 5:22–33, Colossians 3:18, 1 Peter 3:1–6).

We deny that a wife's submission is a result of sin's corruption of God's design. We also deny that either wives or husbands should follow their spouses into sin.

Article 4: Singleness

We affirm that just as marriage is a gift from God, singleness is also a gift from God to be enjoyed as an excellent path for faithful and fruitful service in the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 7:6–8, Matthew 19:10–12).

We deny that singleness should be given less respect or honor as a way of life in service to Christ. We also deny that singleness should be used as an excuse for sinful behaviors.

Article 5: The Ultimate Goal of Marriage

We affirm that the ultimate point of marriage is to picture the relationship between Christ and the church, which will be consummated when the church, Christ's bride, will be united to Jesus in glory, at which point marriage will cease to exist in its earthly form (Luke 20:34–36, Ephesians 5:31–32).

We deny that earthly marriage is the ultimate goal of the Christian or that one must pursue marriage to portray the gospel with one's life.

* Approved by the Presidential Cabinet and the Board of Trustees – January 19, 2022.