

## Responding to the issue

*A person comes to you to talk about transgender issues and has come 'out' as the opposite sex. Which pronoun do you use? He or she?*

*What does it look like for a Christian struggling with gender identity to align themselves as closely as possible with their biological sex?*

*Fear*

*Compassion*

*Christ*

# Trapped or transformed?

Understanding and responding to gender dysphoria

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## Connecting with the issue

*How do transgender issues connect with you?*

Looking in a carnival mirror

*"Sexuality is who I go to bed with;  
gender is who I go to bed as."*

Sexuality / Gender identity / Gender roles

## Understanding the issue

### Creation (Genesis 1:26–31)

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:26,27)

"Gender is what's between my ears not between my legs." – Chaz Bono

### Fall (Genesis 3)

*How do we see warping of identity and response at play in culture and the people we minister to?*

## Redemption (Galatians 3:26–29)

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. (Galatians 3:26–29)

"As Bruce, I kept many secrets... Caitlyn doesn't have any secrets. As soon as the Vanity Fair cover comes out, I'm free."  
– Bruce/Caitlyn Jenner

## New Creation (Revelation 21:4–5)

'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." (Revelation 21:4–5)

To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it. (Revelation 2:17)