



Jamie: Alright, well, welcome everybody to the webinar. We want to extend a special welcome to our hydrate community, our alumni that are joining with us and we want to welcome everybody, all of our Kidman community to the session today. We are excited to hear from Joe and Linda and we feel it's going to be valuable for your ministry, so, without any further ado, I want to turn it right over to them. Thank you, Joe, for coming and jumping on with us today we're excited and I'm going to give you the stage and let you go.

Joe: OK, you got it. Hi, thanks for the pleasure. Linda is going to be joining us too. We had talked beforehand about me starting and taking the 1st 20 minutes anyway, so we should be able to stick right to our scheduling here. The whole idea is to get us better equipped to understand some of the struggles associated with the transgender issue, and the people we're dealing with. I mean, it's a people issue and it's becoming a more prominent issue that the church has to respond to. I want to talk about it from the parents end. Over the last 36 years, I've been working with people who wrestled with homosexuality and with gender identity issues, and I also deal quite a bit with parents and I've dealt for decades with parents who had kids come out to them and say, hey mom, dad, I'm gay.

But over the last five years, I've had just like a tsunami of parents calling, saying, hey, we are a Christian family and my son or my daughter has just come to us and said, mom, dad, I'm trans and I want to be transitioning. I want you to affirm that. I want your permission for me to rename myself to adopt a different persona, maybe even to have medical treatment, and if the kids are adults, they're basically saying, this is what I'm going to do, and in many cases, they're even saying if you don't affirm that, I'm going to withdraw from you. So, I want to take the about 20 minutes to talk about some of what the parents we deal with are going through in our churches when their kids announce to them that they are transgender and then Linda is going to be talking more about our ministry to people who themselves are transgender, and both she and I have come from backgrounds that include gender identity issues. I was a gay activist for a number of years. I was also on staff with the gay affirming church back in the late 70s, early 80ís, so this certainly isn't academic to me or to Linda. This is a ministry issue and a very prominent spiritual one as well. I want to talk to you about two things, OK?

Grieving and establishing.

Grieving and establishing.

We grieve anytime we lose an assumption. You think about that. You know your relationships are largely based on assumptions, right? You assume that people will be a certain way. You know, you assume, especially when people are close friends or family members, that what they have believed and the beliefs you share in common the values you have in common are beliefs and values that they will continue to have.

And when you get an announcement that that things are different now something dies. Now multiply that by several 100 and you get a sense of what parents go through.

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Parents raise their kids with certain assumptions. We are Christian parents. We are raising our kids in a Christian home. We expect them to be living their lives not perfectly very few Christian parents are naive enough to think their kids aren't going to have problems.

But this is not one of the problems they expect to have, and that's why they go through what I call the basic the grief that goes along with death. Not the death of the person, but the death of an assumption.

When I came out to my parents in 1978, I was given them a death sentence. I didn't realize that, and it wasn't like I was trying to make trouble for them I was just trying to be honest with them say, mom, dad, I've realized I'm gay. This is how I'm going to be living my life. I hope you're going to be OK with it but, you know, this is it.

What I didn't know was that when I told them that, it was like, oh my gosh, what we thought Joe was going to be, what we hoped for him, what we expected of him all of those expectations now are dying and where there's death, there's an emotional roller coaster.

There are three things in particular that parents grieve, Christian parents, especially when their son or daughter says Mom, dad, I am transgender, I believe that I am either trapped in the wrong body, or I have a different sense of what it means to be a man or a woman. Now I identify more as a female, even though I was born male, or I identify more as a male but was born female.

Three things they grieve. Let's start with the loss, they grieve, the loss, the loss of assumption. They're kind of asking themselves, wow, what was it all for? You know, Paul spoke to the Galatians about something similar when he was like, hey, you know, I invested so much in you, and now you've fallen back into legalism and Galatians 4:11, he says, I'm afraid of you, lest I've bestowed all this labor on you in vain. It's like, wow, I have so nurtured you. I've been there for you, I've taught you, I've trained you, I've pastored you, and now this, you know, I did not expect you to adopt this kind of a belief or this kind of behavior. It's a lot what parents are saying, you know.

Like I said, parents do expect their kids are going to have problems, but this is generally not one of them. I often compare to movie genres. You're watching a movie. If it's a particular type of movie, you expect particular types of conflicts. If it's a horror film or a suspense thriller or a western or a musical or a romcom, whatever it may be, there are certain conflicts that go along with each genre of movie. So, if you're watching a western, the kind of conflicts are going to be like gunfights and fistfights and bar room brawls and, you know chases on horseback. What you don't expect is a spaceship to land in, a bunch of aliens to get out, because it's a western, see.

When Christian parents hear their son or daughter say, mom, dad, I'm trans, it's like the spaceship just landed in the middle of the western, it's like, what? We're a spirit filled



Christian home. This doesn't happen. And so, they're, they're very blown away and they, they, they sort of lose their confidence in a lot of things.

They lose, of course, confidence in one of the primary things they want to have confidence in. That their child is in God's will. Because that's one of the primary things you want, you know? More than anything else, you want to know that your child is where God wants them to be. I've got two grown sons and I've often said I didn't know what fear was until I had kids.

And then as soon as they're born like 5000, what ifs start. You worry and, in a way, I think you never stop worrying. I'm 68 years old. My sons are grown men. They're you know, I still worry about them like their kids. I can't. I don't tell them that all the time. But. You know it's true. It's true. So, when you lose confidence that your son or daughter is not in God's will, you grieve.

You can also lose confidence in your own parenting. A lot of the parents you'll deal with in your own ministry, you might have kids who are trans. You'll also be dealing oftentimes with their parents. The parents are going to be dealing with a lot of guilt and a lot of assumption of their own thinking. Oh, where did I mess up? I must have done something wrong. Either I didn't do what I was supposed to do, or I did do something I shouldn't have done.

Now, can early trauma within the home contribute to gender identity confusion? Absolutely. Can mistakes or deficits in the home contribute to gender identity confusion? No question. No question. But are they the only things that contribute to gender identity confusion? No.

No.

And I mean, in all fairness, no parent does it perfectly. So, you know, if parents are saying, gee, did we do anything wrong? Well, of course you did. If you're a parent and you're human, yeah, you did something wrong. But did you do something wrong which directly contributed to this? You don't want to assume that. Maybe they did, maybe they didn't. But don't start with the presupposition that the child's gender identity confusion speaks to something the parents did or didn't do, which they should not have done or which they should have done, because that may not necessarily be true.

You always want to take it a case by case. You know, I've often said there's no such thing as a typical homosexual person. There is also no such thing as a typical transgender person.

People have unique experiences. You want to take that, that, you know, you want to take that into consideration and another loss that they're grieving, they're grieving the loss of communion. This is very hurtful to parents. They're feeling like, wow, we were on the same page, we were in such communion spiritually, you know, and now you're outside of that. It doesn't mean that you're outside of our family or that we love you any less, but we don't have the same fellowship that we had before because you have removed yourself from some vital beliefs, and your behaviors now are very much at odds with where we stand on key issues.

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So, they're grieving loss. That's one thing they're grieving. Another thing they're grieving though is confusion.

They're grieving their own kid's confusion because they're in grief over the fact that if Paul said this pretty well when he was talking about people he loved very much, the Hebrews, 2nd Corinthians 4:4 he goes wow, in whom the God of this world has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. The God of this world is the king of blinding people's minds. That's one of his forte. Let's keep people from seeing the truth, keep them in darkness, keep them confused, keep them loving their own darkness more than they love the light, and in fact, the word he used, they're blinded in the Greek, it means literally the dulling of the intellect.

Sometimes people will adopt a sin in their lives, and you think, wow, you threw your common sense away the way you're justifying that now, well, that's why a lot of the parents you deal with will say, oh, my daughter has always been so intelligent how can she agree or believe in something like this? Well, it's the dulling of the intellect. So, it's kind of a sad truth when emotion collides with cognition, emotion often wins and that's where the confusion comes in.

And let's make no mistake about this that we're dealing with transgender one of the key elements we're always dealing with confusion.

Confusion. Paul said that God is not the author of confusion well, the converse is true. Satan is the author of confusion. This is what he loves to do. Muddy the water, OK. A foundational point that I think we know even before we read it in Scripture, we tended intuitively know it.

The sex God has assigned us is a divine assignment. It's not a mistake. It's not a coincidence. It's a divine assignment. In fact, that assignment, I'll bet you the first thing that was said about you. It's a girl. Or it's a boy. I mean, that's, that's a primary identifying characteristic. Paul said Romans 9:20 showed the thing formed, that's me, say to him that formed it why have you made me thus?

See, that's divine prerogative. If I were to try to change what God has made me to be, I am usurping divine authority. I become the lump of clay that is saying to the Potter, you know, you don't really know what you're doing. Let me give you a hand here. Yeah, you didn't quite get it when you made me.

No, God did get it.

And common sense and DNA will confirm this. If I die now if somebody you know finds my dust somewhere 100 years from now, it's going to still testify to the fact that, yeah, that that was the guy. So, we're dealing with massive confusion when we're dealing with transgender. That's one of the things parents are so often grieving.

They're also grieving rebellion.

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That's a tough one.

Because when rebellion happens, a person is basically saying. I give myself permission to assume the role of God in my life. Which is really a luciferian thing to do, it's so, what Isaiah says, Lucifer said in his heart. Isaiah 14:13-14 You said in your heart, I will ascend into heaven; I'll be like the most high; I will exalt my throne above God.

I know when I gave myself permission to come out of the closet, when I gave myself permission to walk into an adult bookstore and look at porn and then enter into an affair with a woman that culminated in an aborted baby, and then finally start going to gay bars and yeah, I basically said Joe Dallas is gone.

I called the shots. I it's no longer that my body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. My body is a temple of me. I'll decide for myself what's right or wrong. So, a lot of the parents you'll deal with will be talking about their kids and saying, well, you know, my son or daughter, who is now trans, they used to love the Lord. They went to Bible camp. They, they, you know, have known the word. They used to serve as kids, I mean.

And all of a sudden now, everything they talk about is me, me, me, my satisfaction, my identity, my coming out, my gratification. Something has shifted, and that's always true.

For a Christian to reach a point where they will give themselves permission to step outside God's revealed will, there has to have been a hardening of the heart.

So, the parents are dealing with they're grieving loss and they're dealing confusion or, excuse me, they're grieving confusion and they're grieving rebellion. That's a heartbroken parent. My child is living in such a way I've lost all my for ordained ideas about what life would be for him. And my child is very confused, and my child's in rebellion. And so, we aligned with them in that.

Why? Paul said, you know, you rejoice with those who rejoice. You grieve with those who grieve. That's part of what you'll be doing if you're dealing with this in families. You'll grieve with the parents, you'll weep with them, you'll align with them but then there's also going to be an establishing. Let me go over that briefly and let me explain what I mean by the establishing.

OK, parents have a kid, whether it's a minor kid, a teenager or young adult or an adult, you know?

Either way, they're going to go through the grief process, but at some point they're going to have to establish too, OK, so where do we go from here? How are we going to relate to each other? Where are we going to draw the line? What are we going to agree to and, you know, so forth.

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The establishing.

Which is basically this. OK, you've told me you're trans. Where do we go from here? What can we expect out of each other? If, if, if we're establishing in a godly way, based on the word of God, on the precepts of the scripture, on the on the mandates of the scripture, it will always be an establishment based on truth.

A lot of people today are saying, well, you just need to love your kids no matter what. You need to love them no matter what. Absolutely right. That's the point you do. Now, what's the description we have of love?

The best one is 1st Corinthians 13. What is 1st Corinthians 13 have to say about love? Real key component of love. Chapter 13, verse six love rejoices not in iniquity but rejoices in truth. Truth and love are not contradictory. There's no truth. There's no love.

So, yes, of course we have to love them. Which means that what we established with them must be founded in truth. And that's usually what we have to hang on to when trans sons or daughters are saying to their parents, you must not only accept me, which we're all for absolutely accept your kid, no matter what, you accept them yes. You have to affirm me.

Whoa, wait a minute.

Affirm you in every part of your life? Number one, nobody does that. Let me just hammer that in there. You will never in your life be in a relationship in which you approve of everything about anybody. Ain't no way that will ever happen.

My wife. 37 years, 36 years. Of course she accepts me. I'd know by now if she didn't. Ain't no way she approves of everything about me, and if she was on this webinar, she'd be taking up the rest of Linda's time to tell you all the ways she does not approve of me. That's the way it is.

So, I encourage parents to try to be reasonable with their kids and say, hey, I don't have to approve of you in order to accept you.

There are, and there are parts of you I approve of, absolutely but not everything about you. That's not possible. Ever. And when there's overt sin in someone's this is the key point. Someone who we truly love is outside of God's will and a significant part of their life.

Ephesians 5:11. Hard verse but very relevant. Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. OK. I will align with you as a person. I love you. I want our relationship to stay intact. I'm with you 100%. I'm there for you, whether I agree with you or not. But I will not align with the sin in your life. I will not align with your confusion. I can't. Because I'm commanded not to, OK?



And that will come up when somebody is saying, just for example, I want you to call me by my preferred name. You've always known me as Joe. From now on you will call me Elizabeth.

Now. If I am asking you to respect the right that I have as a free will agent to call myself Elizabeth. Well, OK, that's reasonable. I mean, I'd be wrong, but I would have the right as an adult to be wrong. But I don't have the right to impose that on you. You, see? Now, I don't believe we need to be jerks about this. If I had a transgender friend who was saying, hey, I've been Joe, now call me Elizabeth, I would say I can't. I simply can't. I would never ask you to do something you don't believe in. Please do not ask me to do something I don't believe in.

Now I will try to find some common ground with you here. I cannot call you Elizabeth, but I will say this I can talk to you without using a particular name. I'm not going to go up to you and say hi, Joe, who is male and who has testosterone. No, that's an arrogant, disrespectful thing to do. What I will say is, hey, I love you. I can just say, how you doing? You know, I don't need to call you by a female name or a male name in order to have a conversation with you. That much I can do, but I will not align myself with you.

Somebody asked about that verse. By the way, it's Ephesians 5:11. Ephesians 5:11 have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness.

Another one, we're talking scriptures 1st Timothy 5 do not be a partaker of another person's sin. Do not be a partaker of another person's sin. Really important.

When I'm dealing with someone who's got a particular sin going on in their life, God does not call me to always denounce the sin every time I see them. That would be repetitive again, and it would be counterproductive. If I've already told you where I stand, I don't need to remind you of it every time I see you. So, God will not always call us to repetitively denounce a sin, but God will never call us to legitimize a sin. That's not going to happen, you see.

So, when we're dealing with parents, we're basically encouraging them to maintain clarity and maintain charity without seeing a contradiction between the two. We want to align ourselves with them in their grief and be there for them as comforters and encouragers. We want to encourage them to stand fast both in the truth about the fact that what we have been created by God cannot be annulled, that it is not the creations place to argue with the creator. We can sympathize with the fact that if someone genuinely feels they are trapped in the wrong body, that must be a torment that is unimaginable. We can empathize with them, we can weep with them over that, we will be there for them and that. But what we cannot do is say therefore the problem is the body God gave you. He didn't.

He didn't. The body God gave you was an assignment, you see. The problem if you feel you're in the wrong body is the feeling you have. Now as Linda will probably point out, not everyone who is at this time of life reporting transgender confusion is necessarily always going to feel that confusion, because in many cases, transgender is also transitional. Maybe not always, but it frequently is, you know?

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So bottom line. I encourage parents to say to their kids, I cannot tell you what to feel. I cannot tell you what to think. But I will tell you what I do feel and think. I will tell you where the boundaries are drawn in this home and in our relationship. My hope is that we can preserve our relationship. And ultimately, my hope is that you will enter into a deeper relationship with him because he alone is the one who is going to undo whatever confusion or pain has overtaken your life.

OK. That is a one way of addressing this, which is from the parents angle. Let's have Linda come on now. I think you've joined us, haven't you, Linda?

Linda: Yes, I'm here.

Joe: Hi, good to see you.

Linda: Sorry about that. I double booked in the wrong time zone, so, I, yeah, saw my calendar and I panicked.

Jamie: Thank you so much for coming on.

Joe: Yeah, please take over from there, Linda. And then when you're finished, we can go into Q&A.

Linda: OK, sounds good. Yeah. So, Joe was talking more about kind of general gender dysphoria from a parental point of view, and I'm going to get a little more specific and talk about rapid onset gender dysphoria, which is something that's going on among teen girls right now. Do I have, can I share my screen?

Jamie: You should be able to say yes. Um, hold on.

Linda: Yeah, I've got some slides that'll make it go a little faster, I think, to help you track with where we're going.

Jamie: OK, try it now.

Linda: Yes, thank you.

Jamie: You're welcome.

Linda: OK. So just so if I haven't met you, I'm Linda Seiler and I came from a transgender background myself. God, I never was out and proud didn't I wanted to be called David wanted to have a sex change, live happily ever after, the whole thing. God intervened in my life; long story short. And he brought me through an 11-year journey of transformation of embracing who God has called me to be. And I'm more secure in my identity as a woman and just who



he's created me to be than I ever have been. And I was also same sex attracted and God did a deep healing work in my life and now I'm wholly attracted to men and really enjoying being in the game.

But what I want to talk to you today, oh, we're with restored ministries too so, if you haven't gotten on our website there's a bunch of resources up there that you might find of help. Rapid onset gender dysphoria or ROGD is a specific phenomenon. It's a social contagion that's happening among teenage girls. We are seeing teen boys that are adopting transgender identities, but not to the rate that we are teen girls. And what's happening is these are girls who have no former history of gender nonconformity like, for me, I felt like a boy trapped in a girl body from age 3. Just never had a memory being OK and a female body was very gender nonconforming as far as I was athletic, I didn't want to play with Barbies and dolls and makeup and be inside. I was much more masculine in my thinking. But these are girls who, they may grow up for all practical purposes and just be kind of girly girls and just your normal, average teenager with no sign of being gender nonconforming and then all of a sudden they turned 12 or 13 or whatever and they announced that they are nonbinary or transgender.

Usually, nonbinary is kind of a bridge to going to full blown transgender and adopting a false identity. So, there's no history of gender nonconformity and then it is a social contagion that they're getting from social media, especially TikTok, Tumblr, YouTube, Instagram and what they're seeing is all these other people out there that are transitioning and they're getting all this attention and it's, it's glamorized LGBTQ.

Back in my day it was you were ostracized if you adopted an LGBTQ identity, which is partly why I never came out public was too terrified, too chicken to transition and terrified to let my parents and other people know. But now it's glamorized and that's affecting our impressionable teens that are wanting affirmation. We've seen a 1000% increase in girls that are seeking to transition in the last 10 years. In the UK, it's 4000%. It used to be extremely rare that a girl would want to transition and be a boy and actually have the surgery and do that, and now it's just becoming commonplace.

So, a great book if you haven't read Abigail Shryer, she's a secular Jew, I believe. So, she's not coming from a Christian perspective, but she's a freelance writer, writes for the Wall Street Journal and other places and she did a lot of study on this and wrote the book *Irreversible Damage*, the transgender craze, seducing our daughters. And she does a great job explaining how all of this has come about and what's happening and how we should respond. Again, she's not coming from a Christian point of view, but it will give you an understanding of this phenomenon and what's going on.

And they can link it to the rise in girls adopting these transgender identities, to the invention of the smartphone. And as soon as everybody had a smartphone in their pocket and these teenagers



had access 24/7 to social media, they started seeing this social contagion rise among teen girls. And so, what we've seen because of social media an increase in anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation, self-harm, ROGD.

We've seen as well this false world of perfection where these girls will see their friends posting pictures on social media in the perfect bikini body and you know, the developing teenage girl will be like, oh, I don't, I will never have a body like my friend does. And maybe I'm not really a woman and there's something deficient about me. It multiplies the effect of peer pressure, where they'll see pictures of their friends out doing things without them, and they feel left out.

In my day you would just hear about it that ohh, all these people went to the game that Friday night and you weren't there, but now you actually see pictures of it, and it just increases the sense of ostracism being ostracized and feeling left out, feeling the peer pressure to fit in. And so there are vulnerabilities among our teenage girls that make them susceptible to this more so than boys. And I think it's mostly because girls are more social creatures and they're really looking for that relational connection and affirmation and also because our culture, if a guy comes across as effeminate, we still have enough of a standard in our culture where that's just not acceptable. Whereas if a girl wants to come across as tomboyish or whatever, that's not pushed against as much. But anyway, with these teen girl vulnerabilities, there are these thoughts that, well, I'm insecure and I don't know who God created me to be because I mean, every middle age, not middle age, middle schooler and girl going through puberty is that's the essence of your teenage years.

And going through puberty is trying to figure out who are you, what are you going to like, who are, who are you, how are you going to treat others? And what kinds of things will you adopt into your personal style and dress and the way you talk and all of that.

And so, these girls are vulnerable because they don't yet know who they are and who God's created them to be, they're just learning that, and the enemy is capitalizing on that impressionable stage of life. Many times they feel socially awkward and then that makes them anxious. There's a high incident of girls that are on the autism spectrum that are especially vulnerable to this rapid onset gender dysphoria.

A girl may think, I feel isolated. Everybody else seems to fit in, and I don't. I'm uncomfortable with my developing body. I hate the sound of my own voice. I don't fit the stereotype of what a beautiful woman should be. My body will never look like the popular girls in bikini photos. And they're exposed to pornography now because of cell phones and social media and the internet and they're seeing violent forms of pornography that make them go I don't think sex is a great thing. I don't think I want to be a part of that.

And so, all of these, the combination of these factors of what's going on in our culture right now are preying upon the vulnerabilities of these impressionable teenage girls. And so, what happens is they come to a certain conclusion. They have these lies that are at work in



them that the enemy uses to lure them away from who God has created them to be. And the one lie is, well, I must not really be a woman, and that lie can get planted in them.

I had a friend whose teen girl was on a game on her phone called Roblox, and the mom thought it just looks like an innocent child game. But she didn't know there were chat rooms associated with this game and so her daughter was getting on the chat room and sharing about her insecurities with these people in the chat rooms. And the chat rooms are full of not just peers, but predators that were trying to convince her, oh, you're not really a woman, you're gay, you're a lesbian, you should adopt this false identity and so forth.

So sometimes parents are unaware of the influences of social media and the internet, and so this lie can get lodged in them that, well, I must not really be a woman because I don't measure up to this epitome of the magazine cover photo and all of that. And then they believe the lie well, and LGBTQ identity will make me special. And this is what girls are experiencing when they think, oh, I'm not a woman, so I'm going to adopt a nonbinary identity or a transgender identity.

They get a chest binder on Amazon, start binding their breasts, trying to come across as a man, and then in some states without parental consent, as young as age 15, I think it is in Oregon, you can go to Planned Parenthood, you can tell them I feel like I should be a guy, and they will give you testosterone. You don't need a doctor's note, you don't need parental approval. You get the shots and you start injecting.

And the saddest thing you'll see is if you go on YouTube and you can watch these women that are injecting themselves with testosterone and they'll do a chronology. Here's day one on T, day 2 on T week one month one, year one, and you watch their facial structure change. You watch their voices change, 5:00 o'clock shadow, receding hairline. It's mesmerizing to watch these changes in their body. And the sad thing is, these changes are permanent.

Because and that's why Abigail Schreier called her book Irreversible Damage. Once that hormone comes at work and your body, just like Joe, he's got a male voice and that's never going to change back to a female voice. It is permanently changed. So, these changes are happening, these irreversible damages to our teen girls. But what happens is they experience these changes, and they announce on social media, maybe they don't start injecting testosterone yet, but they announce on social media, I am non-binary, and my new name is this. My pronouns are going to be this, and because of today's culture, they are immediately showered with affirmation. Oh, that's awesome. You be you. That's great. We like the awesome and they get more affirmation than they've ever received in their lives. And so, it fills this need of wanting to be affirmed, feeling special.

And then thirdly, they believe this LGBTQ identity is going to make their anxiety go away. Now these are all lies, but a teenager doesn't have the ability to think through logically and so, they need parents and older adults in their lives to help come alongside them and help them



discover who God created them to be and to resist, to replace these lies with truth. And so, lie the first lie I must not be a woman.

My recommendation to a parent if you have a child that's a daughter that's adopting an ROG, transgender or non-binary identity is approach it with curiosity not offence. Like how could you do this? We didn't raise you this way. Just stop it. That's not usually helpful and it will reinforce the child's decision, usually to continue to go in their own way so you can ask questions, open-ended questions. Oh, wait a minute this this may feel like it's come out of left field for you, but the child's had a long time to think about it before they had the courage to come out and tell their parent.

So, my recommendation is to approach it with curiosity, with questions like OK, tell me more. When did you begin feeling this way? What do you dislike about being a girl? What do you think is admirable or best about being a boy? How do you know that you are in fact a boy? Because you're not, you know. And being able to talk them through basic biology. And a lot of times what you'll find is they dislike the period of life that they're in and they need an adult to come alongside and help them through that uncomfortable time of discovering who they are and dealing with their developing body and the way that maybe men start looking at them when their body is developing and it's uncomfortable for them and so forth.

The next thing. Is limiting social media contagion. And actually, you know, we need to be aware. It'd be the equivalent today of my parents sending me to an overnight sleepover on a Friday night to the house of some parents they've never met, and they don't know who the other kids are that are going to be there. And oh yeah, that's fine, just let us know when you'll be home and when we give our children cell phones and they have access to social media and there are no limits and we don't know what they're looking at, we don't know who they're interacting with. That's the equivalent of just unleashing the world on our child and not knowing what they're taking in and it can be a contagion to them. So, I do recommend limiting social media and being aware of what your child is looking at.

The second lie and LGBTQ identity is going to make me special. Well, we need to come alongside her and help her discover who God created her to be and affirm her in her unique personality traits. Her unique talents affirm her in the ways that she's like Jesus. Ask her what she likes, what does she admire in other women? There's a lie today going among teenagers, girls that let well, I really admire this particular woman and so that must mean I'm gay and it and it's a sexual attraction. They don't even know what a sexual attraction is. And they don't understand that admiring another woman and liking there are things that are about her is just a normal step in development of saying, well, I like the way she does her hair, or I like the purse she carries, or I like the way she responds to people. And maybe I would like to be like that because I find that appealing in her and I would like to adopt that into who I am.

And so, affirming our, our young girls that if they're what is it that she likes? And if you see that quality in her affirming it in her and say, you know what, I think you would look great in



that. Why don't you try that on, or I think you respond to people in that way too, and I think that's really admirable.

Another thing is doing an affirmation train if you're in a small group. And this is more for like a ministry setting if you're doing small group ministry with girls and affirming one another, having them start and saying, Linda, I just really admire not a physical trait about them, but an internal quality, not flattery, but a true affirmation of who God has created this person to be.

So, like Joe, man, I just really appreciate the insight that you have. You're able to think from multiple angles and help us understand from a parents point of view how to minister to a child that's going through this. And I really love that you, um, emphasize scripture. You're so grounded in the word, right? So, it's things like that where we're affirming who the person is, and that can really help our girls stepping into who they are.

And then the third lie in LGBT identity is going to remove my anxiety. We need to come along, our girls, and ask, OK, what are you most anxious and depressed about? And they may not have words for that. You may have to ask the Holy Spirit for some, some good questions to ask to draw some things out there in conversation and teach our girls healthy ways to relieve stress and anxiety in life rather than turning to maladaptive coping mechanisms. And creating a safe place for our children to ask about sexuality. We want them to come to us as parents and ask those questions, rather than getting that information on the internet or from their peers.

We want to set logical loving limits as far as social media and boundaries in life. Just like Joe was talking about regarding the pronoun no honey, that that's an adopting a different name, a different identity, and even wanting to transition, whether socially just by the name or injecting hormones. That that's not a decision for a minor. Like these are life altering decisions that you don't even have the capacity to understand the ramifications of sterilization and what this would do to your body and not being able to have kids and so forth. So, we need to be the parent and step in and love our child with logical loving limits.

So, a couple resources just to close. Excellent book Desist, Detrans & Detox Getting Your Child Out of the Gender Cult. I highly recommend this book. It is all about this rapid onset gender phenomenon and gender dysphoria phenomenon. Maria Keffler, the author, I don't know that she's a Christian. She doesn't come right out and say she's a believer. She doesn't approach it from a Christian perspective per se, as far as using scriptures. But I kind of feel like as I'm reading this book, I'm picking up like I think she's a believer. This book is so good because it doesn't just explain ROGD, but it gives you parenting advice. What do you do if your child is caught up in this? And when I was reading this through, I'm not a parent, but if I were, I would buy this book simply for the parenting advice because she taps into one of the pitfalls we run into today where parents want to be their child's best friend and they're afraid to be the authoritarian and they actual parent in the relationship and she just gives some great advice regarding that.



And then another resource Help for Families is a ministry that deals specifically with rapid with transgender issues. We have a quick guide on rapid onset gender dysphoria. It's just a one page gives you all the facts, a lot of the stuff I just shared now, and things Joe is saying we have another one on what pronoun should I use. We have another one on just if somebody comes in, they're just having gender dysphoria in general. You might find these quick guides helpful that you can just go to our website restoringministries.org

And then very soon, in the next, um, probably before summer, we will have an online video series that's going to be released for free. It's going to be 14 different videos to help training on all the basics of LGBTQ. It's recordings of our conference that we did last September. And we're doing this without a paywall because we want to try to train as many leaders as possible so that will be available.

And if you sign up for our mailing list, our newsletter list, just go to our website and enter your e-mail, then you'll get a link in your inbox as soon as our video series goes live, so.

Jamie: Linda, we had someone who just asked, could you put up line #3, that slide for just a little bit longer? Appreciate that. And then we are going to go, we are going to jump into a Q&A. You should see on the bottom of the webinar there is a spot for Q&A. And if you have a question that you would like, we are going to spend the next 10 minutes or so with questions. We're going to try to answer everybody's questions. But if there's a lot, please, please forgive us if we do not get directly to your question, so.

So, we're going to open it up for that and we will go ahead and send those in, and we will wait for those to come in and we will go into that. I also put the links to those QR codes in the chat, so if you're looking for those, you can click on them right there in the chat. Wanted to thank Joe and Linda again for coming on and participating with us. The insight you guys give is just invaluable and we greatly appreciate that.

Linda: Our pleasure.

Joe: Very glad to.

Jamie: Kelly wanted me to let all of our hydrate learners know that we are going to be doing an entire hydrate session with Joe and Linda. We're recording that in May. We are super excited about that.

So, I do have a less question for you if you want to go ahead and stop sharing your screen, Linda. We had for Joe and Linda, Harvey asked, so is the issue genetic or a decision? How do we answer questions about that?

Linda: Now there's no. No scientific evidence that anyone is either born gay or born transgender. The idea today regarding the transgender phenomenon is that, oh, you can have

a male brain in a female body in my case, and so that maybe, Linda, you were exposed to too many hormones in the womb and too many androgens and what it did was it masculinized your brain, but it didn't virilized your body. So, I still ended up with a female body, but a male brain. There's absolutely zero evidence to back up that hypothesis. In fact, what cuts against it is you have two identical twins that share the same womb, same hormonal environment, and you can have one twin that ends up gay or transgender and the other does not. How do you explain that?

And in my case, I was not injected with all my hormone levels are normal as far as a woman would go. And I wasn't injected with more estrogen and then all of a sudden, I was attracted to women and felt like a woman. It's not a genetic issue. It's different than what would say.

We might say intersex, that's a congenital kind of physiological thing. It's extremely rare .018% of the population. It is not common. But as far as those that are experiencing it, gender dysphoria. The answer is not changing my body to match my fallen mind. The answer is to renew my mind, to match the body that God has given me. And usually there are some environmental factors, family dynamics, childhood sexual abuse, gender nonconformity, teasing. There's trauma many times in the past that affects our psychosexual development, and it affects the concept of who we are as male and female. And I just grew up feeling like there was something deficient about what I mean I literally felt like a man trapped in a female body. It was just demonic, the way the enemy planted that. But there were wounds of rejection one after another after it wasn't just one. The enemy kicked us while we're down, and there were multiple wounds of rejection that the enemy from all different sources. That just reinforced the lie it's superior to be a man than woman.

And so, that's why it took eleven years of God renewing my mind, bringing me through inner healing and even deliverance. There were some spiritual aspects of that to unwind all of that stuff and to renew my mind, to line up with his.

Joe: Yeah, if I could add one quick thing to that. We don't have to choose between genetics and choice, because a lot of human conditions may not be genetic, but they are still involuntary. So, when somebody says I didn't ask to be gay or I didn't ask to be trans, I believe them. I didn't ask to be born a sinner either. I mean, and I'm not being facetious. The sin nature is something that we got, and we did not choose it. It was not a choice, but the fact that something is involuntary doesn't mean it was created by God. And nor does it mean that it's inevitable. We give in to it. Part of the sickness of the times is we're assuming that what we feel must determine what we are, and that's something we're trying to challenge here.

Linda: Yeah.

Jamie: OK. Next question I have come up, what conversation should parents, pastors have with kids prior to them even walking through these struggles that could help prevent the struggles.

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Joe: Well, I wish that parents would talk more with their Christian kids about struggle in general. That struggle is a part of life. You are going to struggle between what you know to be true and what you want to be true. You're going to struggle between your desires and your principles, and you know your that's something that you will have, to an extent, for the rest of your life. I want you to get used to it now and learn to make your decisions based on what you know to be true, not on what you feel would be gratifying to you. And if you will live that way, you're going to live a free and healthy life, that's in a nutshell what I encourage parents to say.

Linda: Yeah, I think with that, talking with your child about what they like and don't like about themselves. I think sometimes we just don't have honest conversations about that. And it can be really helpful to have parents speaking into that because all the kid is hearing is the social media and the lies of the enemy and their own fallen flesh and all of that. And if we're not willing to have those honest conversations, I know that I just did my family, we just didn't. We didn't talk about sex; we didn't talk about heart issues. We didn't talk about anything. So, I think having open lines of communication. Talking about struggle, talking about just helping them discover who they are, that this really is not a sexual issue as much as it is an issue of identity and being comfortable in our own skin as who God created us to be.

Jamie: We have a question from Ali what are some ways or tips to help kids who don't feel that way themselves, but whether rather have questions about family, friends who live that lifestyle and come from non-Christian homes?

Joe: Well, I hope we're teaching our kids to love and to evangelize and disciple. And in the context of doing that, I'd use the same principles we would share with them if they're dealing with anybody, try to establish some rapport, establish some trust, be a good listener. I love the way Linda was framing that and talking about, hey, start with curiosity. There's nothing like curiosity to convey respect. I find you interesting enough to want to know you. I respect you enough to not want to just preach at you. I want to hear from you. Great, great approach. And I hope we would teach our kids how to do that and then how to explain from their own, I think your own story and then what, you know, doctrinally, it's a good combination. So, if I was a teenager right now, I guess I would try to be saying something like God, that's really interesting. You know, can I tell you a little about what's happened to my own life when I, you know, heard about who Jesus was and what he required I realized maybe not everything I felt was something I wanted to go with and I got to tell you, it hasn't always been easy, but it sure is paying off and, you know, the Bible says, you know, that type of thing. I'm, I'm not saying it very well. But the idea, you know, bring your own story into it and your own experience, show that you know what it's like to deal with the human issue and then point to the fact that but there is something bigger than you. There's something bigger than me. There's a truth greater than ours. What did our creator say? Take it there.

Jamie: Very good. We have Ronnie ask what do you do with the information about genetic variations within genders that some studies are showing? Umm. I'm guessing he's speaking to a specific study here, but do you have pushback when people come back? Because usually the

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general public will see something just kind of out there on the internet and they're like, oh, but that study, how do you, how do you address when you're in those types of conversations?

Joe: Well, let me start and I know Linda is going to have something to say too, but this is kind of an it's a pet peeve of mine is in our modern conversations we hide behind these smokescreens of you know, brain sex or genetic variations or you know, you go into or even if you know microaggressions or, you know systemic sins that you can't really see but they're there trust me. You know. And it's like we won't let a discussion be about what we can verify, what we can plainly see. We make it about some smoky thing that only the elite have access to, and I think that's part of the problem in a lot of modern conversation. I'm sure there are genetic variations. I'm sure there are hormonal, hormonal differences. I'm sure some boys are born with less testosterone or, you know, whatever. I don't think that makes them transgender. I think it may affect the way they present themselves. And I almost want to say who gives a rip? I mean, that's facetious, but we don't, you know, if a boy is more slight or more sees less aggressive or he's more sensitive he is a boy who is less aggressive and more sensitive. It's not questionable whether or not he's a boy. So, the variation is in the kind of boy he is.

Well, all right.

So, I'm an old guy with a bald head, but I am still a guy. The old and the bald are variations, but they don't change my sex, and I think that, that's why I would I kind of like to cut to the chase of if there are variations, what's that got to do with whether or not one is male or female?

Linda: Yeah. And I bring it back to Scripture, too. I mean, as believers, God created us in his image, male and female there, there's not 3 genders or 59 or whatever. And while there may be variations, I think that's one of the most beautiful things about God's word is years ago, you know, there was this push for, you know, restoring biblical masculinity and biblical femininity and, you know, what does it mean? And I that was really oppressive to me because I read that book, Wayne Grudem was my neighbor actually and he spoke at my fall retreat when I was in college.

Yeah, yeah. Oh, yeah.

He lives three doors away. He and his wife actually prayed for me, and he was my favorite professor of my college campus pastor. So, he came and spoke at fall retreat, my junior sophomore year in college when I was questioning, you know, all this stuff that's going on. And so, I read Grudem's book, and I came to the conclusion, oh, my goodness, I, I what I thought was the call of God to teach and preach and do what he's calling me to do now I was like, oh no, that's not God that's these transgender desires I'm trying to do something only a woman can do I mean only a man can do in the body of Christ. So, I died to the call of God on my life and went in and became a high school English teacher and didn't go into ministry till later because I didn't think women should do that, you know? It was news to me when I visited an Assemblies of God Church and there was a woman up there preaching. I was like, I

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didn't think they were supposed to do that, you know. Genetically, the world is trying to erase the concept of male and female, not the world, the devil. I mean it's demonically it's. And so, you know to put some doubt, did God really say, is there, aren't there some genetic variations that you're not really all male or all female. It really is cut and dry. XX chromosomes are females, XY chromosomes are male. Only a male and a female can mate and reproduce. It's just, it really is that easy and it goes back to Genesis, chapter one. So, if people start throwing studies at me and saying yeah but what about this? I don't usually take the bait and try to get into the minutiae of whatever study it is, if it does go to, I usually take it back to the word, back to the basic principles and so forth. But if you do get into the study, I mean it might be interesting to read the study, but when you find out who funds it and what's behind it, you'll find out what some of the biases are.

Jamie: That's good. Well, we want to respect everybody's time and we have hit the 5:00 o'clock hour. Joe and Linda, thank you so much for coming on and being with us today. Thank you for taking time to answer questions here at the end. Just so everybody knows, the webinar will be available on the Kidman site in about two weeks after we get it ready and posted there. So, if you want to share it with somebody or you want to review it with somebody, you can do it then.

So, with that, I say goodbye and thank you so much again for being with us today. Thank you for all the participants.

Linda: Thanks so much.

Jamie: Bye everybody.