

For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kinadom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it."

Matthew 9:12

\*Without Context.

## Can We Hold Both? Part 2

## TODAY'S VERSES:

Matthew 19:12

Proverbs 25:25-26

Matthew 19:3-6

Deuteronomy 22:5

Jeremiah 30:6

Isaiah 43:6-7

Genesis 1:27

Luke 7:47

John 3:17

Romans 3:24

## 8. Truth and Love:

## **RECAP & DISCUSSION STARTERS:**

Recently there are those who have argued that Jesus affirmed transgender identity using Matthew 19:12 (about eunuchs). In Matt 19:12 Jesus was discussing marriage and celibacy after teaching on divorce, not gender identity. Maximum glory comes from two distinct but equal genders working together, not from one gender or multiple genders. Like all things, we need both truth and compassion; we need to step away from harsh judgment and from uncritical acceptance. Letting feelings determine reality does not ultimately lead to the flourishing of life. As Christians, we must speak truth in love, support struggling individuals in community, and model healthy gender expression while recognizing that all people bear God's image and need His grace.

- The central question posed is, "Are my feelings god?" versus objective truth from God. How do we discern when our inner experiences reflect genuine truth versus when they need correction?
- How can we differentiate between authentic personal struggle and cultural influence? Is this distinction helpful or potentially harmful?
- How do we balance communal accountability with personal agency? When does community support become coercive, and when does individual choice become harmful isolation?
- How do we oppose ideological systems while genuinely loving individuals caught within them?
- How do we maintain theological convictions while honoring the full humanity of those who struggle?
- How do we distinguish between genuine compassion and enabling potentially harmful behavior? When does acceptance become complicity, and when does truth-telling become cruelty?
- How do we understand the relationship between our physical bodies, psychological experiences, and spiritual identity? What does it mean to honor our "embodied" existence in a fallen world?