Gender

The Spirit specifically tells us that in the end times marriage will not be allowed (“forbidding to marry,” 1 Tim. 4:2). Knowing we are in the last times, and having seen the drive to forbid the eating of meats (also 1 Tim. 4), I had wondered how marriage would be eliminated. Perhaps, I thought, it would be through the legalizing of living together, but that doesn’t seem to fit. “Common Law” marriage is still, in the eyes of the law, marriage. So I wondered how this passage would be fulfilled. Perhaps the move towards a genderless culture will be the means of fulfillment. Already the main-stream media has stopped referring to husbands and wives, and simply refer to someone’s partner. It angers me when I hear this, because it appears to me to be a direct statement against marriage. The media seems to avoid referring to a woman’s husband, unless of course, it is a lesbian couple.

We face an unprecedented attack on our children’s biological gender. We have parents putting their children in our church school due to Federal mandates regarding gender identity; recently a kindergarten boy came home on the first day of school and asked his mother, “Mom, am I a boy or a girl?” This sort of thing has done wonders for our enrollment in the younger grades, but the cultural direction is harming our children.

Let’s double our efforts to underscore the biblical issues with our children and grandchildren. I came across this excellent suggestion recently:

Incorporate sexual identity-affirming statements into Sunday school classes on a regular basis. If you have teachers or administrators who attend your church, enlist them to help create short, age-appropriate lessons beginning with toddlers. That may sound very young, but if your children are watching Disney, then you need to begin these conversations.

These can be very simple for preschool children, like, “Raise your hand if you’re a boy. Who made you a boy? Yes, God! Does God ever make mistakes? No! God meant for you to be a boy, and it’s good to be a boy! If you are a boy, can you ever not be a boy? Nope. You will always, forever, 100% be a boy because that’s how God made you. God made you a boy because the world needs brave, kind boys like you!” And repeat a similar statement for girls. (Summer Stevens, *5 Ways to Teach Kids About Gender,* Grace In Focus, September/October 2021, p. 18.)

What an amazingly simple way to underscore what children already know from nature.

My love to you all,

*Dr. Marvin J. Effa*