## Steadfast Bible Fellowship

## Position Statement on Religious Freedom and Human Sexuality

The Board of Directors (or Elders) do not normally make position statements on political and social issues. However, recognizing the protection of religious freedom under the United States Civil Rights Acts, we believe it is important to state Steadfast Bible Fellowship's official position on religious freedom and human sexuality.

- 1. As detailed in our Statement of Faith, we believe the Bible to be the inspired and infallible word of God. Therefore, everything we say and do must be under the guidance and authority of Scripture.
- 2. We uphold the sanctity of marriage as a God-ordained union between a man and a woman, within which sexual relations are honored and affirmed by God. We share the conviction that all sexual unions, outside of heterosexual marriage as thus defined, are sinful and harmful to body and soul. In dealing with sexual sins outside of marriage, we must be attentive to Scripture and therefore consistent in our response to both heterosexual and homosexual situations.
- 3. We will demonstrate civility and compassion as we engage in dialogue with others on these issues. The Bible calls upon us to respect people even though we may disagree with them. We affirm the dignity of all human beings.
- 4. Within the context of Steadfast Bible Fellowship, we will also separate the value and identity of each person from the behavioral choices one makes. We must never reject people, but we will hold people accountable for actions that Scripture defines as immoral. We rejoice in the fact that God encounters, embraces, forgives, and heals all people who are responding to His grace. We must also extend the same grace and forgiveness to those whom we may discipline for violating Biblical standards as it relates to human sexuality.

It is our desire to respond to this current challenge with resolve and sensitivity. We stand for the clear ethical teaching of the Bible, while demonstrating compassion for those with whom we may disagree.

Updated by Steadfast Bible Fellowship's Elders, November 2018.