



From the desk of Craig Burton
General Secretary Treasurer, PAOC

Ministry partners, we have a plan to help you lead well in these challenging times.

We do not pretend to have all the answers on how to manage the ever-shifting trends of society around sexuality and gender. We do know we need to lead confidently and with grace and truth. As affiliated churches with the PAOC, we have shared biblical values and principles that need to be applied consistently. We understand the need for clarity about these policies and practises that must be in place.

At the request of the Districts, we have been working on a plan to help you. We invite you to [click here](#) to watch this video with Craig Burton as he begins a conversation about gender and biblical truth based on Article 6.4 of the PAOC Statement of Essential Truths and Positions and Practices (SOETPP).

Over the next few months, we will release a variety of resources to address issues surrounding sexuality and gender. We invite you to [click here](#) to visit the ministry toolbox where you will find links to a collection of resources as we gather them. To begin, we are re-releasing the PAOC Statement of Affirmation of Biblical Sexuality, Gender, and Marriage. You can [click here](#) to visit the PAOC credential portal where, under member files you will find both the Statement of Affirmation of Biblical Sexuality, Gender and Marriage as well as the Statement of Essential Truths and Principles and Practises.

We need to be prepared; we need to be loving, and we also need to be guided by biblical truth. Let us lead together with confidence, grace, and truth.

Suggestion Action Steps:

1. Review the [PAOC SOETPP](#) focusing on Article 6.4 found in the credential portal under member files.
2. If you have not already, makes preparation to adopt the PAOC SOETPP in your local church constitution. Contact your District for guidance.
3. Prayerfully read the [Statement of Affirmation on Biblical Sexuality, Marriage and Gender](#).
4. Share this information with your leadership team and begin a conversation. Ask: Do we apply these truths/beliefs consistently? If not, where do we need to consider improvement?
5. Watch for next month's content on governance policies and church practises.



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