

WHY - Why We Study God's Word

PART 2 - Pastor Jordan Biel

The Word of God gives truth to a confused world.

We're talking about the importance of studying God's Word every day. So I thought I'd start off this message with a hilarious article from Babylon Bee that I read 2 weeks ago. They are a SATIRE website - using humor and sarcasm to make great points. Here's Babylon Bee's 8 tips for daily Bible Study

1. **Consider getting a hip translation with cool words like "yeet" and "sheesh."** -- How can you experience the eternal Word of God if it's not cool and hip?
2. **Get an audio Bible read by William Shatner.** -- In... the beginning... God... created... the heavens... and... the earth...
3. **Make sure to set aside at least seven seconds a day to read the Bible.** -- It's important to dedicate a few short seconds to the Lord before you spend the rest of the day on social media.
4. **Spend most of your devotional time trying to get a good picture of your Bible next to a cup of coffee for your Insta.** -- Now that you've got a few seconds with the Lord, spend the entire time live-tweeting your devos and getting that perfect Instagram shot.
5. **Look for creative ways to rip verses out of context and make them all about you.** -- Get creative! Read a verse about ancient Israel or Jews in the first century and think, "How can I make this all about me?"
6. **When your kids try to interrupt you, shout "NOT TODAY, SATAN!"**
7. **Underline the entire book so no verses feel left out.** -- The more underlining, the more spiritual you are.
8. **Whenever you read a really convicting verse, make sure to apply it to everyone else instead of yourself.** -- This is an important one. If you read a verse that convicts you of sin in your life, just think how much Becky from Bible study needs to change her life instead of you. It's better this way.

While that's funny and maybe for some of you a bit convicting, today's message is rather serious.

When we study God's Word, we see that JESUS CHRIST, God's Son, is at the center of the Bible. The narrative of the Bible is the story of Jesus. It's the story of the Gospel.

We might guess that after reading the Bible and seeing that man sinned that God might conclude ... Man is the problem; I'll just remove man.

But that's not God's nature. In God's great love for man, He redeems us and even partners with us to restore Creation! WOW!

Why is this important? Why is it important for you to know that the message of the Bible is the story of God's son Jesus, redeeming mankind? Because **The only hope for a confused and hurting world, is the truth of God's Word.**

I wrote extensively in my book, Truth & Love, about the objectivity of truth and that Jesus, God's Son, reveals what truth is, what God is, what LOVE is. Without that revelation of Jesus, we are lost.

Without the revelation of God's forgiveness, we are hopeless as humans. Without the Gospel, we seek revenge which only perpetuates hate and hurt and brings the human race more pain and more problems.

But the Gospel - the Gospel is different - the Bible is different. The Bible tells us about Jesus!

When we study God's Word, we find that God's story is always redemptive.

I was reading the book of Judges this last week and it was remarkable to see the cycle of sin that Israel was in. It was stunning to see how time and time again, the people of Israel would ignore God's warning - believing the grass was greener on the other side - and start to worship neighboring country's idols or even begin to commit some of the sins the neighboring nations committed.

- They would be blessed by God as God would rescue them
 - After a time of blessing, they would forget that it was God who was providing blessing and protection.
 - They would begin to sin and compromise and ignore God's ways
 - God would send a messenger to warn them and remind them of God's laws
 - They would heed the warning and repent usually after a miraculous rescue
 - They would be blessed by God
 - After a time of blessing, they would forget that it was God who blessed them
- CYCLE repeats.

"People did what was right in their own eyes" scripture says.

As you might imagine that inevitably leads to suffering.

Discuss Absolute Truth / God's Law / Indwelling Conscience ...

If I do what's right in my eyes and you do what's right in your opinion, our views are not going to be coherent.

After all, if I don't believe it's wrong for me to club you with a bat and take all your stuff, who's to say I am wrong. It's your view against mine as to what's wrong if we have no agreed upon moral standard.

If you want to do harm to me and I want to say "You can't do that. That's wrong" Who am I to say what "wrong" is if I have not first agreed that there is a wrong and a right, an evil and a good. Immorality and morality.

This is why our laws in America work pretty well - they're not flawless of course - but they work better than most nations which are more chaotic where militia or drug lords are in charge. Why? Because our laws are based on Judeo Christian values and the 10 commandments. To this day, a statue of Moses is seen in Congress.

When society doesn't have a moral standard, it crumbles. period. That's what's happening in America and all over the world. This is why we plant churches by the way. In churches, people hear what the Bible says. They hear the redemptive story of the Bible seen in the life and sacrifice of Jesus and in that understanding, they are saved, given a new heart and new way of thinking and living. THIS is how people are changed! **This is WHY we study God's Word. It brings TRUTH to a confused world.**

We really do live in a very confusing time.

I believe it's because most people are not finding their identity in being God's because they're not reading His Word. This series is called WHY.

It's been reported that Americas trust in journalistic integrity is at an all-time low. We used to be able to turn on the news and have a general expectation that what we were hearing was mostly true and without bias. Now, Americans don't trust the news. Period. We've all seen the undercover footage that shows the real agenda and real opinions of our journalists - many of them are far from genuine trying to report the facts, the news, after careful investigation. Many, instead, cave into peer pressure to look more "woke" than the next station, to virtue signal by casting as much shame as possible and even cancel someone for having a different or even Biblical view.

And it's not just America of course that is in confusion. The UK and many countries around the world have experienced more chaos in the last decade as they have embraced ideals opposite of God's Word.

Not that you need any proof as to the chaos and confusion in our world today but I thought I would give you just a few signs from current events and culture.

SIGNS OF CONFUSION

1. Sexual Identity Crisis

We have a sexual identity crisis. There's no other way to say it. I've had four conversations in the last 3 months in just our Rock of Grace family and relatives of those in our church!

It's reported in a national study by the UCLA that the percentage of teens between the age of 13 and 17 spiked from 4% to 7.5% in 2015 then has grown by 1% each year where as of 2019, it's reported that over 10% of teens when asked "Which of the following best describes you?" Checked a box such as Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Non-binary, CisGender or Transgender.

Why? Why is the world pushing a non-Biblical view of sexual identity all the time? Why is satan targeting our teens to consider this option? Many reasons I suppose. **The "prince of the air" as he is called, Satan, is for now, allowed by God to tempt the hearts of man and bring lies and confusion. According to John 10, his goal is to steal, kill and destroy. This is opposite of God's goal which is to give, bring life and peace to you.**

As I told a young person this last week...

Satan was kicked out of heaven. He's mad at God.

He gets revenge at God by harming God's special creation - you. You and me are God's special creation - His children. Satan wants to remove the image of God from the earth.

When we pro-create and have children, we are bringing more of the image of God on the earth. **Why do you think satan wants to get you into a relationship where you can't pro-create? Of course! He wants to STOP the image of God being populated on the earth!**

This is why it's SO important that you and I preach the Gospel and tell people about Jesus and how sin is real, evil is real and that Jesus defeated sin and evil on the cross. You and I need to open our mouths - no longer can the church stay silent on these issues! It's time to rise up in faith and speak the truth in LOVE. There are parents finally attended school board meetings and demanding change when they discover that their teens are being fed a lie about sexuality.

I had to do this 12 years ago when I was a youth pastor. I found out about a book that promoted the lesbian lifestyle that was assigned to AP English

students. I went down to the High School. In love and in kindness, I told the principal about my concerns. I told him that the local school has no right to teach kids about homosexuality and the book needs pulled immediately. I was grateful that he heard me and had the book removed.

Parents, if you see something that's bringing harm and confusion to your teen and their peers, speak up!

Another reason you have so many teens exploring their sexual identity outside of God's design is the constant push from corporations.

ORBITZ commercial

Think of it - a business that helps you book a flight - spend thousands of dollars to virtue signal and try their very best to appear compassionate but instead added more harm and more confusion to an already confused young, impressionable audience. There was 30 seconds of an agenda pushing lesbian and gay relationships. I want to be clear.

God LOVES the person who sees themselves as lesbian and I do too.

God LOVES the gay man and I do too.

If you identify as LGBTQ, please know that we love you and we want you in our church family. We simply want you to know the truth and let the truth set you free from a lie that Satan has given you. It's that simple.

I said this in my youth pastor days and I'll say it today

God knows what's best for you and God wants what's best for you. That's why He's given you wisdom in His Word. That wisdom from the Bible says that a "man should leave his mother and father and be united to his wife."

Scripture makes it clear in Genesis that we bear the image of God

Just like I want what's best for my kids, God wants what's best for you. Just like I give my kids rules because I want to protect them, God gives you and me rules and guidance to protect us.

I want what's best for them. I want them to know and love Jesus and find Him to be their loving Savior.

But what is NOT best for the lesbian or gay is to be confirmed in their confused identity by an airline. What is ridiculous and un-true is to give teens and young adults a constant bombardment of sexual confusion especially from companies that have no business in trying to redefine a youth's sexual identity.

God's Word brings TRUTH to a confused world.

Did you ever stop to think that it's not coincidence that the LGBTQ+ celebration is always denied by one word: PRIDE.

Why?

In pride, we say to God, we reject Your design and we define ourselves. In humility, we need to turn to God and say to Him “God, I make a mess of my life apart from You. I need You to define me and bring me into truth. I confess my sin of pride and I admit that I need You.”

The Bible has a lot to say about sexuality outside of God’s design being man and woman.

Here’s just one portion

⁹ Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Flee Sexual Immorality

¹² “All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³ “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food”—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴ And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. ¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?

[*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#). (2016). (1 Co 6:9–15). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

Notice that God combines anything that would “dominate’ or control us - be it food - an unyielding appetite or pornagrphahy or homosexuality
But he lists thieves, greedy people, revilers all of this is what MEN do who are CONFUSED without truth.

CRIME

This may seem obvious but it’s important that we discuss it.

Crime is increasing especially in cities across the US. I’ve seen it at least a few times a week on the news. Why? Well we know that laws or laws that limit police work would of course increase crime. But that’s not what we’re discussing in our short time we have in the pulpit. We’re saying this - crime exists because of sin.

It’s not new. Again in the words of Solomon, *Nothing is new under the sun*.

Men without that moral compass choose to steal, kill and hurt people when they haven’t had their heart renewed by the Spirit of God. When they haven’t found JESUS to be their Savior.

This is WHY it’s important that you KNOW Scripture and SHARE Scripture with people.

Self-Centered

I had to take out some of my sermon for the sake of time here but let me just summarize what I had typed by saying this: Increasingly, we are seeing Christians who claim to be Christ-Followers yet make their decisions based on two things: self preservation and comfort.

Christ calls us to lay aside self preservation for the furthering of the Gospel and TRUTH
Christ calls us to lay down convenience so that we may serve the hurting.

Can I say it like this. If you've gone to church for 10 years yet never had someone who is hurting sit at your dining table or even across from a zoom or FaceTime call and pour out their pain to you - then there's a problem. You may need a fresh revelation of the gospel. If you're still self-centered, caring only for #1 and what makes YOU more comfortable and your life more convenient then you are not letting the Spirit sanctify you and make you more like Christ.

The Holy Spirit challenges me daily to lay down my comfort to serve another. It's not always easy but it's the right thing to do and it's what Jesus calls me to.

Can I even say this. IF there's a mega church in your city with 10,000 people and yet there's 1,000 kids in foster care and no Christians are taking them in to their homes, then you don't have a church, you have a gathering.

If there's a mega church in your city with 10,000 people every week but crime is still on the rise in your city, then you have to re-evaluate what you're doing. You may have a museum not a hospital.

The WORD of GOD changes us and that happens daily!

When you KNOW God's Word, you KNOW TRUTH. The truth dispels

We're going to read this whole passage in a few minutes. But I want to read this: Jesus said...

John 17:8

⁸ (Jesus said) For I have given them the words that You gave me, and they have received them and have come **to know in truth that I came from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.**"

If you don't yet know the truth in that Jesus came from Father God to rescue us, then you are living in that confused world - that state of the world that has no peace.

Colossians 1:25-29...

the church, ²⁵ of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching

everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹ For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

[*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#). (2016). (Col 1:24–29). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

God has made His GLORY known to YOU through His Word! Don't take it for granted!

The revelation of Jesus is the truth. Fix your life's attention on Jesus, the revealed Son of God. In HIM, you will find all you need for life and godliness, joy and peace!

What does the Bible teach us regarding our response?

1. The Bible teaches us that God's love is seen in Jesus

We talked about this a lot already today, but Col 1, John 1, 1 John 1, the Bible tells us all about Jesus. Every hero of the Old Testament is a picture of

2. The Bible teaches us that our response is to Surrender & Worship

Our response to this Good news is to surrender - to believe in Jesus like He said in John 17:8. Jesus only asks us to believe and let HIM change us from the inside out.

We must surrender our beliefs, our way of thinking, and even how we identify, politically, sexually, and so forth.

The whole of man's response to Jesus can be summed up in one word: Surrender.

I surrender my right to be right.

I surrender my feelings.

I surrender my pride.

I surrender my need for excess.

Excess in money I don't need.

Excess in sexual pleasure - I don't need porn to make me happy.

Excess in possessions - I don't need too many expensive things to make me content.

I bring ALL of that to the cross and admit my need for this Saving God - this Creator who knows me more than I can ever express - this God who loves me more than I can ever understand.

I surrender my money to God's control.

In the words of the old song "I surrender all"

Relisten to this great teaching on the power of God's Word and knowing what we believe:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/truth-for-life-programs/id91473880#episodeGuid=tag%3Awww.truthforlife.org%2C2021-01-16%3A%2Fbroadcasts%2F2021%2F01%2F16%2Fbelieving-part-2-of-2-%2F%2F>

3. The Bible teaches us that ... The Lord opens our heart to believe.

Turn in your Bibles to Act 16:11-15

With Lydia in Acts - read the passage Jordan.

¹¹ So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. ¹³ And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a

place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together.

¹⁴ One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

[*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#). (2016). (Ac 16:11–15). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

Paul preached the message. But THE LORD opened her heart to believe.

“No man comes to the Father except the Spirit draws him.” Scripture says.

This is why it's important that believes pray. Which leads me to another core thing the Bible teaches us

4. The Bible teaches us that once saved, we work with God to redeem mankind.

We pray. We believe what Jesus teaches - that we pray in partnership with God's spirit and in doing so, we agree with Heaven and ask that God's Spirit speak to the lost person - inviting them into a relationship with Father God.

God's Spirit works within us to communicate His love to others. We become “Christ's ambassadors”

We become “little Christs” scripture indicates. Christ lives IN us through the Spirit's Power.

The Holy Spirit is given to us as we see in the book of Acts and

The Spirit of God not only empowers us for right living but emboldens us to tell people about Jesus.

You can't just think your way towards God. Inward renewal is needed.

It's been said “it takes a whole Bible to make a whole christian”

Why. We can base our beloved and doctrine on ONE VERSE

We must read scripture daily and know the Lord for all that HE is.

The lie of “thinking your way towards God” is one that's self-made. It's self-reliant. It indicates that one can think their way towards God and towards right living by looking within. Truth is that you can't. You need God to change who you are. You need inward renewal.

Being like Christ (the chief goal of man) isn't about listening to what a pastor says but what the Bible says.

My goal in preaching isn't that you like me but that you like Jesus.

My goal isn't that you like what I say but what God has said in His word - that like David you too could say “Your Word is like honey on my lips. Your word is a lamp into my feet-guiding me down the path of righteousness...”

Turn to John 17. I know what you might be thinking. Pastor Jordan you preach from John 17 like 3 or 4 times a year.

Yes, that's true. But it's SO GOOD!

COMPASS

While you're turning there I want you to think about a compass.

(Picture up)

You must know what you believe! What you believe is your doctrine. It's your compass.

Your compass True North is what the Bible says.

That magnetic field that moves the arrow to truth north - that's like the Holy Spirit - the Spirit is constant pushing and pulling us when we are wavering from the truth. He always points to Jesus and to the ways of God.

If I set my course on a compass to true north. Then I start walking. If I don't check that compass every hour or even 20 minutes - if I walk for 3 days without checking it, guess what, I'm going to waste a lot of time walking the WRONG way.

That's what's like when you don't go to the Word of God every day to get your true north. **To stay on course, open the Bible daily and study it for in it you'll find the beauty of Jesus and the words for life!**

Jesus knew that we would face confusion in our world. He knew that people like you and me would be tempted to define our selves by our money, our pleasures, our sexual identity, our position or role at work, our family history... He knew that. He knew that the Prince of the Air, Satan, would continue to tempt you and me to live for ourselves. This is why He was so clear in this passage. Let's read.

17 When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

⁶ "I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept **your word**. ⁷ Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸ For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come **to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me**. ⁹ I am praying for them.

I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹ And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them,

and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴ **I have given them your word**, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

¹⁵ I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ **Sanctify them in**

the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Jesus wants you and me to know the truth! He wants you to know that identifying yourself by your money will only bring you an endless search for meaning.
 He wants you to know that identifying yourself primarily through the lense of your sexuality will only bring you confusion and hurt - even regret.
 He wants you to know that if HE can reject all temptation by the Spirit's power and overcome sin that YOU can too!
 He wants you to see, in the Bible, that HE is the answer and the joy to life - not excess - not more money, more women, more sex, different sex, different attempts at finding happiness ... these -in the words of Solomon all make life seem meaningless.

Surrender to God is the key. Jesus said "Take up your cross and follow Me!"
 In a world where Pastors are becoming increasingly hesitant to preach the cross, self-denial and surrender, I need you to hear me today ... YES, God wants to bless you! YES, God wants to fulfill your dreams - but ONLY if they're HIS dreams that build HIS kingdom. You first must deny yourself, take up your cross. Some of you will have to lose family members over this! We have some families in our Rock of Grace family that are now living out the very words of Jesus when He warned that you may have to deny mother and father to follow Him.
 If your Christianity isn't costing you something, then you're probably not reading the Bible and living as God is intending.
 Even if we look at this logically, there's no mentor or coach that we would esteem as a good mentor who didn't call his students into some form of self-denial.
 If a football coach told his players "just eat healthy when you feel like it." I want you to fulfill all your desires all the time." We would NOT say that's a good coach.
 If an Olympic trainer didn't call his students to "Practice" he wouldn't be a trainer for long!
 Yet some Christians believe that God's only intent for them is to make them enjoy their life and fulfill all their dreams. No. God's goal is that you glorify Him and that you become like Jesus. This is only possible when you Study God's Word and in it find the beauty of Jesus and the key to life.

Obedience to God is the practice of the Christian life. The Spirit calls us into this practice to glorify God and to make us more like Jesus.

"Obedience to God, not intelligence, is the key to the christian life". Alistair Bag

There are many people who are intelligent but not wise. Wisdom comes from fearing God and fearing God comes through studying His Word.

8 Truths from God's Word to Hide in your Heart:

- 1. The Trinity - The unity of the Father, Spirit the Son**
- 2. Sovereignty of God. He is in it all: Creation redemption judgment new earth**
- 3. God created man and woman to glorify and multiply His name and image on the earth. This can't happen in a trans or same-sex relationship**
- 4. Sufficiency of scripture. It's inerrant through and through**

5. Universal sin of human nature
6. Redemption through Jesus' sacrifice and resurrection
7. Power to live upright and enJOY life comes through Holy Spirit filling
8. Promised New Eternal Life in Heaven w Jesus who's prepared a place for us to be w Him in fellowship

Practical Tips for prayer and Bible study

**Every day
Same place
Same time**

Donna Barret at the AG office said this ...

"Prayer is not a gift of the spirit. Rather it fuels ALL the gifts of the Spirit."

Gods Word teaches us about Gods love and our IDENTITY being His! We are not

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. "For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-12 ESV

<https://www.bible.com/59/isa.55.1-3,6-12.esv>

In pride, we say to God, we reject Your design and we define ourselves. In humility, we need to turn to God and say to Him “God, I make a mess of my life apart from You. I need You to define me and bring me into truth. I confess my sin of pride and I admit that I need You.”

I want to get very practical with you who are parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles. If your child tells you that they are now gay or you see them experimenting with their sexuality, here’s 5 things I want you to remember:

1. Affirm your love for them no matter what

- They need to know that your door is always open, that this does *not* change your love for them. Sadly, there are hundreds of Christian parents who’ve kicked their kids out of the house or simply rejected them ... they don’t know what to do so they react in anger instead of response in grace.

2. Affirm God’s love for them no matter what

- Ensure they know that God will always love them, even though this isn’t what He wants for them. They need to know that they can ALWAYS pray and talk to God about this at any point in their life!

3. Warn them of the consequences

- A. Warn them that the Bible teaches us that we only have a brief time on earth to choose God and in humility, admit our need for Jesus to be our Savior. Our choices here on earth will decide how we spend eternity.
- B. Warn them that in pride, we reject God’s design. In humility, we accept it, even if it means surrendering our desires or feelings to the truth of God’s Word. In humility we admit our need for God and His ways.
- C. If they identify as Trans, warn them with the stat that people are 7x more likely to attempt suicide after they experiment in transitioning their sexuality. John 10 teaches us that the voice of suicide is satan’s voice. God voice brings life. This wouldn’t be conversation 1 of course but it should be early warned - they need to know the danger of this choice.

4. Teach them that the Bible says that we are designed by God

- We’re designed by God for the opposite sex - to pro-create - to multiply the image of God on the earth. To reject that plan of God is to reject God, humbly explain that the wisest thing they can do is receive God and God’s plan for life.

5. Teach them that gender is not fluid or a choice

- Teach them that the idea that gender is a choice or feeling is a lie from satan, even though it's told on the screen. The truth is they are wonderfully designed by God. Our hormones kick in strong in this age - time of life - satan is capitalizing on that reality and trying to deceive you regarding what you're feeling in your body.