

God Loves Me and My Gender
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My daughter was not born physically perfect. My daughter was born with bilateral congenital dislocated hips; however, the problem was not discovered at birth. The unseen birth anomaly remained hidden until she began to try to walk. No one suggested that my daughter should be forced to live her entire life with those dislocated hips that God gave her (i.e. the dislocated hips she was born with). Medical professionals recommended surgery to correct my daughter's birth anomaly. Three years, six surgeries, four casts and three braces later my daughter's birth imperfection had been corrected; however, my daughter's hips will never be perfect. My daughter's hips will never be the same as the hips of those born without dislocated hips. They will never be "normal" and I was told she would one day need artificial hips. No one would ever suggest that my daughter must live life without surgery to correct her birth anomaly.

According to the Bible, humans are part decomposing material that was once dust. Genesis 3:19, states that the decomposing part of us, our physical body, will return to dust: "By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will

return.” While our bodies are temporary structures, our spirit, the essence of who we are, will live for eternity.

Some of the very people that would have castigated me had I not used surgery to correct my daughter’s birth anomaly would castigate me for using surgery to correct my gender anomaly; however, I see no Biblical difference. I believe it takes more faith to be transgender than to be cis-gender. Faith is “complete trust or confidence in someone or something.” When I looked in the mirror as a child I knew that image staring back at me was not an accurate representation of the spirit of the person inside me. The Bible says the image staring back at me was merely a tent. “Our bodies are like tents that we live in here on earth.” (II Corinthians 5) Thus the spirit of each of us lives in a temporary structure we call our body and the Bible describes as a tent. I had faith to accept my spirit while ignoring the reflection of my tent because while everyone is body, mind and spirit, the body or tent part dies. Our spirit lives forever. Defining anyone by their physical body instead of their spirit is contrary to Christian teaching. Proverbs 6:16-19 states that God hates liars and that lying is an abomination. Forcing a person to live a gender they do not believe is their gender forces them to live a life that God hates and a life that the Bible calls an abomination to God. In addition, Romans, Chapter 8, verse 6-8 states, “The mind governed by the flesh is

death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God."

Anyone wishing to define me by my temporary physical body parts (my tent), in order to attempt to force me to live a lifestyle based on those temporary physical body parts, is attempting to push on me a lifestyle that the Bible declares is "hostile to God and cannot please God," according to the Book of Romans. I am, and have always been, a woman who was born with a physical birth anomaly. Based on recommendations of medical professionals I corrected the physical birth anomaly. God loves my honesty about my gender. God is planning on meeting my spirit, the essence of who I am in heaven. God wants me to live honestly as the spirit of who I am, not as the flesh of what was once a birth anomaly. God not only has no problem with my gender, I am persuaded that God loves my gender, loves my courage to transition, loves my honesty about my gender, and loves me.