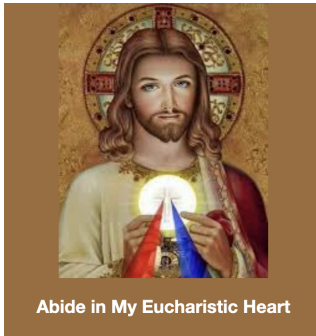


TASTE Reflection Questions
February 1, 2024



Gender and Theology of the Body
Mike Tenney

When you look at the Crucifix,
you understand how much Jesus loved you then.
When you look at the Sacred Host,
you understand how much He loves you now.
~ St. Teresa of Calcutta.



1. What did you find most interesting about this talk? E.g. Being canceled by either side, Creating bubbles around kids
2. When people wrestle with their assigned gender, too often they decide to transition without realizing there is another solution that is consistent with God's design.
 - How do you feel about the difference between the secular ideology of “**ASSIGNED & DISCOVERED**” and the Catholic theology of “**GIVEN & DISCERNED**”?
 - How do gender non-conforming people like Joan of Arc, Saint Francis of Assisi, and stay at home dads remind us that we do not have to act like the stereotypes?
 - How can we help those who struggle with their assigned gender to embrace & reconcile both their body & soul?
3. Mike Tenney highlighted the cross that Transgender people carry. He also shared how Jesus interacted with sinners by **FIRST** showing mercy & love and **THEN** observing their conversion of heart.
 - How did this talk open your eyes to the suffering people have with their given bodies?
 - Based on Jesus' actions and the fact that ALL people are children of God (even those who want to change their gender) encourage us to treat ALL people with radical love, grace, and compassion?
 - How can remembering that gender ideology is really a religious/spiritual belief help us and others?
4. Mike reminded us that our first identity is a child of God and that we are made in God's IMAGE and LIKENESS. In His IMAGE (physical body), we are **EITHER** male or female, and in our LIKENESS (spiritual aspect), we can have characteristics of **BOTH** male and female.
 - How does being made in God's IMAGE relate to our ability to create, commune, and love?
 - How does being made in God's LIKENESS provide us a wider variety of characteristics?
Remember, we are all called to act both as the initiator, giver (masculine) and the receiver (feminine).