

To Members of the Commission on the Marriage Canon,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this Communion-changing proposal before the General Synod.

I would like the members of the Commission, and the General Synod to consider why we are consulting the members of a particular denomination (Anglicans) for wisdom, rather than being willing to submit to the wisdom that has been given to us in the infallible Word of God. Changing the definition of a word/concept that was created and defined by God in Holy Scripture should raise red flags for anyone considering such a challenge.

Husband and/or wife are mentioned in scripture well over 300 times, and in each case the reference is to *his wife* or *her husband*. The only references to same sex unions in scripture are mentioned in a negative context. Whether or not we agree to accept same sex unions in our culture, there is nothing in scripture that warrants us including such unions as a sacrament, or providing a blessing for them in the Church. To do so is to be influenced by current culture and political correctness, rather than by the Word of God for direction in the Anglican Church in Canada.

Scripture teaches us that we are all born with a sin nature. I understand this very well because of the sin I struggle with daily. I do not expect the church to change their definitions or Canons so that I could live the way that feels most natural to me, sinfully. However, I do expect my fellow Anglicans to accept me for who I am, a sinner who daily struggles against the sinful nature. I am thankful for a church that challenges me to live a life submitted to Christ, while encouraging me in the daily struggle to do just that.

The message of the Gospel is that even though none of us are without sin, we have a Saviour who forgives us and covers us with His righteousness. Please let's not change the definition of what God has set forth for us in His Word, and what has remained a standard in The Anglican Church since its inception.

Respectfully submitted by:
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