

Transgender Resources for Christians

Compiled by Avery Arden (they/them, MDiv)

Many Christians want to support the trans community but aren't sure where to begin. These resources will get you started with some trans 101, trans theology, ideas for practical changes, and places to find community.

The Basics

Terms & concepts

- Online Glossary: <https://glaad.org/reference/trans-terms/>
- Video: <https://youtu.be/-3ZzpTxjgRw>

Etiquette

- Tips for treating trans people with basic respect: <https://glaad.org/transgender/allies/>
- What questions are inappropriate to ask a trans person? <https://youtu.be/PKNDgizeJmc>

Pronouns

- What are personal pronouns, why do they matter, how do I use them properly? <https://pronouns.org/what-and-why>
- Online pronoun practice: <https://minus18.org.au/pronouns-app/>

Issues the trans community faces

- Summary of issues — legislation & healthcare, poverty, stigma, violence, etc.: <https://www.hrc.org/resources/understanding-the-transgender-community>
- What's with all the anti-trans bills? <https://www.them.us/story/2022-anti-trans-bills-history-explained>
- Latest info on laws & policies and how you can help: <https://transequality.org/issues>

Christian-Specific Resources

Essential books for any Christian / any church library

- *Queerfully & Wonderfully Made* (for youth) and its companion text *Welcoming and Affirming* (for adults) by Leigh Finke
 - These books introduce LGBTQA+ identities, struggles, and joys from a Christian perspective, with practical advice for supporting LGBTQA+ youth.
- *Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians* by Austen Hartke
 - A short, easy-to-read text exploring scripture through a trans lens, with personal stories from a diverse group of trans people.

Why should Christians care about the trans community?

- “Why You’re Called to Allyship” short video: <https://youtu.be/hnIujYr689o>
- “What I Learned about Faith and Justice from My Trans Friends” article: <https://www.queertheology.com/faith-justice-transgender-christian/>

But what does the Bible say?

- Developing a framework for scripture with room for queer affirmation: <https://www.blessedarethebinarybreakers.com/framework-for-scripture>
- Webpage exploring various Bible passages through a trans lens: <https://www.blessedarethebinarybreakers.com/ot>

Online community and support groups

- www.Transmissionministry.com offers online support groups, Bible study groups, workshops, and more
- List of more online community options: <http://queergrace.com/communities/>
- Unchanged’s list of Christian support groups for families of LGBTQ+ persons: <https://www.unchangedmovement.com/families>

Practical changes to cultivate a more welcoming faith community

- “Transforming Our Spaces” presentation: <https://tinyurl.com/2trd2bj2>
- Short videos on how to get this conversation going in your church and how to move towards real change as a community: <https://tinyurl.com/yafj8rfw>
- TransAction: A Curriculum for Churches and Religious Institutions: http://welcomingresources.org/transaction_final.pdf
- The liturgy section on this webpage offers trans affirming prayers, hymns, renaming ceremonies, and more: <https://transmissionministry.com/resources/ministry-resources/>

Further Resources

For even more fantastic resources — from trans theology & scripture to trans Christians’ personal stories — see my full master post here: <https://tinyurl.com/e2fnsk92>

Have specific questions or concerns? Email me at avery@mlp.org

You can also hire me to preach at your church or facilitate a conversation on trans inclusion & affirmation — get more info here: <https://binarybreakingworship.com/workshops/>