

**From the State Administrator's Office  
and the Board of Ministry**  
Texas Ministries of the Church of God  
Statement on Equality

We live in important days. While the work of the Gospel remains central to our cause, the call of Christ-followers to live a consecrated and unwavering life of holiness has never been more important. We acknowledge the mission of God, though hindered by human sinfulness, is a mission of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:11ff). Holiness necessarily embraces racial and gender inclusiveness.

We repudiate the notion that one race or gender is of more worth than another; that rights should be denied to another based on such criteria; that there should be any system of preference remaining to reinforce said criteria. The Bible is clear: we are all equal in the eyes of God (Genesis 1:26-28; Galatians 3:28; Proverbs 22:2; Romans 3:23; James 2:8-9).

The concern for the well-being and equality of all men and women continues to be a citadel concern for many. As such, we call the entire Body of Christ to pray and work for the increased enfolding of men and women of all races into the full life and participation in the Church. This call to action includes functioning in Biblical community particularly where race and gender are concerned. It further requires seeking the good of another through advocating and protecting others as circumstances invariably demand.

We unreservedly re-affirm the historic Christian position that God is the Creator of all people, and that we are created from one blood.

"Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times."

Psalm 106:3<sub>NRSV</sub>