



*Thank you for listening to Kalos Conversations!*

## **EPISODE 6: THEOLOGICAL ESSENTIALS**

In this episode, we talk about the theological essentials that undergird our Kalos training.

Here they are!

### **1. THE GOSPEL IS TRUE, AND A GOSPEL-CHANGED HEART WANTS TO OBEY JESUS IN EVERYTHING**

The gospel is the air we breathe and the bedrock on which our identity and ministry must be built. It is the best news possible: in holy, breathtaking, and incomprehensible love, God the Father sent God the Son to live and die and rise to forgive our sins and secure our future. We don't have to prove anything ever again. We are loved by God and accepted because of grace, and nothing can ever separate us from this love. Boom! While Jesus comes to us in all of our brokenness, He doesn't leave us there. He calls us out of sin and into lives of holiness. This includes issuing a humble and energetic "YES!" to all of His intentions for our lives. Our deepest joy intersects with our fullest obedience to Christ's commands, sexuality included.

### **2. THE TEACHING OF SCRIPTURE IS TRUE, GOOD, AND BEAUTIFUL**

God has spoken - clearly, eternally, infallibly, and helpfully - in the words of Scripture. The Bible must be the first and final voice for all our faith and practice. We want everything we believe and do to be shaped by the clear teaching of Scripture. This includes our understanding of nature, sin, grace, sexuality, ecclesiology, ministry, and everything else.

### 3. SEXUALITY IS A GOD-GIVEN ASSIGNMENT

In His infinite wisdom and for His Trinitarian glory, God wrote a beautiful diversity into humanity when he created the sexes. Maleness and femaleness are not ignorable, insignificant, or interchangeable realities; they are high callings to be embraced. Biology is destiny in the richest, happiest, and most God-centered sense of that term.

### 4. MEN AND WOMEN ARE EQUAL IN DIGNITY, WORTH, AND SAVING GRACE

Men and women each bear the image of God. There is inherent dignity that rests upon every single human being, regardless of our biological sex. Men are not superior to women, or visa versa. We are all of inestimable value, the crown of God's creative work, called to make His glory known across His world. Men and women are also equally fallen, equally in need of a Savior, and equally saved by grace through faith in the person and work of Christ. In the gospel, there is no distinction between male and female. Men are not saved one way, women another. We are all doomed because of sin, and we are all rescued by unmerited grace.

### 5. MEN AND WOMEN ARE DISTINCT IN CALLING

Equality does not imply or necessitate sameness. Men are called to embrace their masculinity, women their femininity. These distinct callings - and their many implications for the home, the church, and society - do not imply superiority or inferiority. Masculine and feminine glories are distinct, but neither is more or less glorious than the other. This is not a competition, but a divinely orchestrated order.

### 6. JESUS LOVES HIS CHURCH AND WANTS MEN AND WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER FOR HER GOOD

The New Testament is saturated with snapshots of men and women partnering together for gospel advance. The mission of God requires the mobilization of all members of the body in doing the work of ministry. This includes setting women free to throw the full weight of their energy, intellect, experience, gifting, training, and passion into the work of the local church. There is a way for women to do without betraying their feminine callings.

### 7. JESUS CALLS, GIFTS, AND QUALIFIES MEN TO SERVE AS ELDERS

The church is the household of God and must reflect to the world the beauty of God's creative intent for the sexes. In every local church, godly men should be vetted, trained, and ordained to teach and exercise a unique and important authority as officers in the church and undershepherds to Jesus. They should do this work in a way that is holy and humble and in accord with true masculinity as the Spirit enables..

### CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What has it looked like for your elders to lead your church in thinking through the clear teaching of Scripture on the doctrines of grace, of man, and of the church?
- What opportunities are before you to deepen your church's understanding of Biblical truth in these arenas?

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