

General Proposal 8

Biblical Marriage

That the Synod

- (a) acknowledges pastoral concern for many who continue to feel deep anguish, anxiety, pain, betrayal, spiritual abuse and trauma from the unhealed wounds of Assembly's decisions, processes and position on marriage; and
- (b) requests a working group be formed to identify, provide and promote orthodox, evangelical, conservative and reformed theological covenantal resources on: Christ-centred singleness and marriage, making them available to the wider church, which take seriously the realities of creation and condemnation, truth and trust, judgement and justice, discernment and deception, error and evil, sin and sanctification, love and loyalty, wrath and wholesomeness, ungodliness and unity, the earthly and the eternal, repentance and redemption, holiness and hope.

Rationale

There is awareness that 98 per cent of Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) believers may have been offended by church (Assembly's marriage decision) and many ignored by government (Uluru bark petition) as well.

Assembly, Synod and Presbytery have not yet provided such Biblically based resources for Christians and congregations who affirm '*Celibacy in singleness and faithfulness in marriage between a man and a woman*' (our Synod's position 1991/2003 g).

Resources for this work are available outside the church and can be used to inform this work. Some examples are:

- DVD – 40 Stories by Christian Aboriginal Australians (40stories.com.au)
- YouTube sermon by Tim Keller addressing covenantal marriage relationships, '*the integrity of sex, the challenge of lust and the future of love*' (<https://youtu.be/IPS4do3tDT0>)

Proposers

Name: Rev Craig Blackburn
Email: cjb3@bigpond.com
Phone: 0416213977 |

Signature: *C. A. Blackburn*

Name: Kym Kennedy
Email: kymk74@gmail.com
Phone: 0412599146 |

Signature: *K Kennedy*