

Growing Faith Homeschool Co-op Statement of Faith

Growing Faith Homeschool Co-op (GFHC) welcomes students and families from a variety of backgrounds. To ensure that current and prospective families have a clear understanding of the beliefs that inform and guide our co-op, we have produced the Statement of Faith found below.

We believe that the Bible, consisting of 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, divinely inspired, free from error in doctrine, fact and ethic, and inerrant in the original writings, is the Word of God and the only infallible and authoritative rule of faith and practice.

We believe in one God eternally existent in three persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - the same in substance, equal in power and glory. We believe that God is the creator of the universe, and that all life is created by God.

We believe in the Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of God the Father, and His personal and physical return in power and glory.

We believe that God created man in His own image but that through sin, man brought upon himself and his posterity not only physical death, but also spiritual death which is separation from God; that all human beings by physical birth possess a sinful nature.

We believe that the salvation of lost and sinful man is a free gift of God's grace apart from works, based solely upon Christ's vicarious and atoning death, effected by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, and received by trusting in Christ's finished work on the cross, and that this salvation is eternally secured to all believers.

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling upon salvation the Christian is enabled to live a godly life; that it is incumbent upon every believer to walk worthy of his calling - to walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh.

We believe in the resurrection of the body of both the saved and the lost - they that are saved to the resurrection of life everlasting and they that are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation.

We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We also believe that it is the responsibility of a parent to teach his or her child a biblical worldview. We believe that the primary responsibility for disciplining a child remains with the parents.

We believe the Bible teaches that all humans are created in the image of God, we hold that all human life is sacred and of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life.

Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

We believe that the Bible has given us a true and valid definition of marriage attendant boundaries of sexuality and moral conduct, and the clear Biblical teaching that gender is both sacred and established by God's design.

I. We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God and that rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

II. We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture.

III. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other, and that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

IV. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God.

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of GFHC and to provide a biblical role model to our members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by GFHC in any capacity, or who serve as council members, teachers, or volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement of Faith.

- *Checking this box is an outward proclamation that **I believe, follow, and live** the above mentioned Statement of Faith.* I understand that any individual doctrinal differences which may exist, outside the Statement of Faith, will not hinder the unity of Christian home educators. I am joining this group with hopes that our unity through our common faith will further benefit ourselves and our children. I am also eligible to serve in a leadership position within the co-op.
- *Checking this box is an outward proclamation that **I will respect and agree NOT to contradict** the above-mentioned Statement of Faith.* I understand that the majority of GFHC believes, follows, and lives the above statement, with hopes that no member will make any attempts to add or take away from it. I understand that I will be ineligible to serve in a leadership position within the co-op. (Leadership positions include, but are not limited to, committee positions and teaching positions). I agree that **I will have age-appropriate conversations with my children regarding my expectations for them to also respect and not contradict this Statement of Faith in any co-op activities or forums** and understand that repeated violations of this policy will result in the removal of my family from GFHC. **I acknowledge that GFHC will be run in accordance with this Statement of Faith and am providing my assurance of full cooperation with the entirety of this Statement.**

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____
