



Statement of Faith and Values

A. SCRIPTURE:

- We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are verbally inspired of God and are inerrant in the original writings. The Bible is the supreme and final authority in matters pertaining to faith and life
- (Deuteronomy 4:2; Matthew 5:18; 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21).

B. GOD:

- We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three co-equal persons; Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19-20; John 1:1-14; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Hebrews 1:3).

C. JESUS CHRIST:

- We believe that Jesus Christ, who is God the Son, became man, begotten of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, and through eternity continues to be true God and true man
- (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:8-23; Philippians 2:5-8; Hebrews 2:17).

D. MAN:

- We believe that humankind was created, male and female, by God in His image; we were knit together in the womb: all have sinned and thereby incurred both physical and spiritual death. All men are born with a sinful nature and consequently are sinners in thought, word, and deed
- (Genesis 1:27; 5:2; Psalm 51:5; 139:13-14; Romans 3:23; 6:23; Hebrews 9:27).

E. SALVATION:

- We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures as a substitutionary sacrifice. All who believe in Him are saved on the grounds of His death and resurrection
- (Romans 5:1; 5:8; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Peter 3:18).

F. THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST:

- We believe that the crucified body of our Lord was resurrected, and He ascended into Heaven and lives there as the High Priest and advocate before the Father
- (Mark 16:1-6; 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 4:14-15; 7:23-28; 8:1-2; 9:24; 1 John 2:1).

G. CHRISTIAN LIFE:

- We believe that all who receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit, and only thereby become children of God. We further believe that the Christian life is exemplary of the teachings found in the New Testament as the Holy Spirit reproduces the life of Jesus Christ in and through each obedient believer
- (John 1:12; Romans 8:14-19).

H. RETURN OF CHRIST:

- We believe in "that blessed hope," the personal and imminent return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
- (Matthew 24:27; Acts 1:9-11; Titus 2:11-14; Revelation 1:7).



FORT WILDERNESS

Stronghold of Christian Adventure

J. THE RESURRECTION OF BELIEVERS:

- We believe that the bodies of the dead, both the just and the unjust, will be resurrected. The just shall be resurrected at His coming to enjoy everlasting blessedness in His presence; and the unjust at the final judgment unto everlasting judgment and punishment
- (1 Corinthians 15; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; Revelation 6:15-17; 20:11-15).

K. PROTECTION OF MINORS:

- We believe that, as a Christian ministry, we are responsible for the spiritual and physical well-being of the minors in our care; and that we have a duty to properly instruct and diligently protect them
- (Deuteronomy 11:18-19; Psalm 127:3; Proverbs 22:6; Matthew 10:42; 18:6; 19:14).

L. DIGNITY AND RESPECT:

- We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of FWM
- (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31).

M. LOVE:

- We believe that the greatest commandments are (1) to love God and (2) to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:36-40). We believe that we should demonstrate love toward fellow believers, those who are not believers, those who actively oppose us or our faith or doctrine, and those who engage in actions contrary to Biblical teaching. We believe that we should deal with those who oppose us graciously, gently, patiently, and humbly. We believe that the Scriptures forbid the taking of revenge and the threat or use of violence as a means of resolving personal conflict or obtaining personal justice (Matthew 5:44-48; Luke 6:31; John 13:34-35; Romans 12:9-10; Philippians 2:2-4). We also believe that love and truth complement rather than conflict with one another (Ephesians 4:15).
- (Matthew 5:44-48; Luke 6:31; John 13:34-35; Romans 12:9-10; Philippians 2:2-4; Ephesians 4:15)

N. MARRIAGE, HUMAN SEXUALITY, AND GENDER:

- In accordance with our view of the Bible as the supreme and final authority on all matters pertaining to faith and life, we believe that marriage is the exclusive, covenant relationship between one man and one woman. We believe that marriage is an illustration of the relationship between Christ and the Church. Though sexual intimacy within the marriage relationship between one man and one woman is approved and even celebrated in Scripture, we believe that any sexual intimacy outside of this covenant relationship falls short of God's standard and is prohibited. Furthermore, we believe that God created human beings in two distinct genders: male and female. We believe any attempts to alter or change one's birth gender falls short of God's standard and is prohibited
- (Genesis 1:27; 2:24; 26:8-9; Leviticus 18; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4).



FORT WILDERNESS

Stronghold of Christian Adventure

P. STATEMENT OF FINAL AUTHORITY:

- The Statement of Faith and Values does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God, speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of humankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of FWM's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Board of Directors is the Corporation's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application
- (Romans 13:1-5; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 2:13-18).

The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring Fort Wilderness Ministries operates consistent with our Mission and Statement of Faith and Values. A Ministry Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the board.