

Rhema Academy Statements of Faith

We accept and proclaim the historic truths of the Christian faith including the following:

God and the Human Race—We hold that the Lord our God is one: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and that He fulfills His Sovereign Purposes (Isaiah 55:10-11) — in creation, revelation, redemption, judgment, and the coming of His Kingdom — by calling out from the world a people united to Himself and to each other in love (Isaiah 43:11). We acknowledge that God wonderfully and immutably created us from conception, male and female, in His own Likeness and Image (Genesis 1:26-28), conferring on us dignity and worth and enabling us to respond to Him (Psalm 139:1-18). However, we are members of a fallen race; we have sinned and come short of His Glory (Romans 3:23).

Jesus Christ—We believe that the Father has shown us His Holy Love in giving Jesus Christ, His only Son, for us, while through our sinfulness and guilt, we were subject to His Wrath and condemnation; and has shown His Grace by putting sinners right with Himself when they place their trust in His Son (1 John 3:1-3). We confess Jesus Christ as Lord and God; as truly human, born of the Virgin Mary (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23); as Servant, sinless, full of grace and truth (John 1:14, 16-18); as only Mediator and Savior (1 Timothy 2:5), dying on the cross in our place, representing us to God (Hebrews 7:24-26), redeeming us from the grip, guilt and punishment of sin (John 3:16-17); as victory over Satan and all his forces (1 John 3:8), rising from death with a glorious body (Acts 1:3), being taken up to be with His Father (Acts 1:9-11), and one day returning personally in glory and judgment to establish His Kingdom (1 Thessalonians 5:2-4, Acts 1:11).

Holy Spirit—We believe in the Holy Spirit who convicts the world of guilt in regard to sin, righteousness and judgment (John 16:7-11); who makes the death of Christ effective to sinners, declaring that we must now turn to Christ in repentance, and directing our trust towards the Lord Jesus Christ (Mark 1:14-15, Acts 16:25-34), who through the new birth makes us partakers in the life of the risen Christ (1 Peter 1:3-9), illuminating our minds to grasp the truth of Scripture (John 16:12-15), producing in us fruit (Galatians 5:22-25), granting to us His Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1-11, 14:1-16), and empowering us for service in the world (Acts 1:8). Supporting Scripture: 1 John 1:1-2:2

The Holy Bible - We believe that the Old and New Testament Scriptures are God-breathed, since their writers spoke from God as they were moved by the Holy Spirit; hence are fully trustworthy in all that they affirm; and are our highest authority for faith and life. Supporting Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

The Church and its Mission —We recognize the Church as the body of Christ held together by the working of His Spirit and growing up in Him, both as a total fellowship throughout the world and as the local congregation in which believers gather in fellowship and service (Ephesians 4:1-6). We acknowledge the commission of Christ to proclaim the Good News to all people making them disciples, teaching them to observe all things that Christ has commanded, and to be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. We acknowledge the command of Christ to love our neighbors, resulting in service to the Church and society,

in seeking reconciliation for all with God and their fellows; and in spreading Christ's justice as defined in His Word in an unjust world until He comes again. (Matthew 28: 18-20)

Human Life –We believe God endowed all human life with inherent dignity from conception through every stage of development. All life has value and is important to God so that the believer is compelled to have compassion for all. Our love for Christ and for those created in His Image is the basis for teaching, loving, and serving our students. (Isaiah 44:2, 49:1)

Marriage and Sexuality–As defined in Scripture, we believe that the term “marriage” has one meaning, is marriage sanctioned by God, and joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive, covenantal union. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that any form of sexual immorality, such as adultery, fornication, homosexual conduct, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pedophilia, any use of pornography or any attempt to change one’s sex, or otherwise acting upon any disagreement with one’s biological sex, is disordered and offensive to God’s desire for human flourishing. We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and repent, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are unacceptable and are inconsistent with Scripture. Supporting Scripture: Genesis 1:27-28; Genesis 2:18-25; Exodus 20:14; Matthew 19:3-9; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; Ephesians 5:22-33; Hebrews 13:4

Identity in Jesus Christ

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world but to save the world through Him.” (John 3:16-17) God has commended His own love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8) We cannot boast about what we have done. God who is rich in mercy has made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in our sins. (Ephesians 2:4-9) Our true identity is found when we accept the free gift of Jesus Christ as God’s Son and begin to live our life not for ourselves but for Him. He provided forgiveness through His death on the cross in our place and by His resurrection is destroying our greatest fears and giving us true peace. (Romans 3:23-24)

God wants to be our Father forever. By accepting the gift of God’s Holy Spirit, we are being transformed to be more like Jesus and can receive grace to live a new life in a relationship as a Child of the heavenly Father and have become part of God’s family, His Church.

Conflict Resolution – Rhema Academy encourages families to create a partnership with the teachers and school staff focused on the development of their child. Open and frequent communication between teachers and parents are a positive benefit for the student and helps to avoid problems. Parents are asked to communicate directly with their child’s teacher(s) about their child’s progress and any questions and/or concerns with respect to any area of their child’s schooling and performance. The school staff is committed to assist parents in answering their questions and/or resolving any problems/concerns.

If a situation arises, where the above guidelines do not achieve a successful resolution, parents are requested to submit a request to schedule a meeting with Head Master, the child's teacher(s), and parents. Parents are encouraged to make this request in writing, listing their concerns. A meeting will then be scheduled with all three parties (Parent, Teacher, Administration) to attempt to come to a resolution to the problem.

If the above meeting does not produce a resolution, the parents may appeal (in writing) to the Board President for a meeting. The Board will have the final decision for any conflicts.

Statement of Biblical Authority—The above statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of all is the sole and final source of all that we believe to address issues that may arise.