

Camp IAWAH's Statement of Faith - 1956

1. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are inspired by God, are inerrant in the original writing, and that they are the supreme and final authority in faith and life.

2. We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary and is truly God and truly Man.

3. We believe that man was created in the image of God; that he sinned and thereby incurred, not only physical death, but also spiritual death which is separation from God; and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature.

4. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice; and that all who believe in Him are justified through His shed blood.

5. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into Heaven and in His present life there for us as High Priest and Advocate.

6. We believe in the personal and imminent return of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

7. We believe that all who receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit, and thereby become children of God.

8. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting, conscious punishment of the lost.

Core Beliefs - 2006 - The following document is an alternate *expression* of our Statement of Faith to be used in things like the web site, staff applications, the Rental Agreement etc. It will hopefully better communicate our beliefs to the people using these forms of communication. It will not replace our original Statement of Faith.

Camp IAWAH - Core Beliefs - 2006

- **THE BEGINNING** - We believe that there is one God, the Creator of all, who exists as plurality-in-unity Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is the personification of pure love and complete power and deeply desires a loving relationship with his people. Because God is love and as such is an inherently relational being, this means that relationship itself is at the core of reality.
- **THE BIBLE** - We believe the Bible is God's message to humanity. Although written through people with the perspective of their own era, culture, and traditions, the Old and New Testaments were inspired by the Holy Spirit and thus the Bible is our timeless and final authority in all that we believe and do.
- **THE Dilema** - We believe that God created all humanity in his image, regardless of gender, colour, or class and thus all people are precious image bearers. Being made in God's image, we were designed for an eternal relationship with him. However due to our own sinful choices and inherent self-centredness we have all fallen short of God's ideal and become separated from him, in need of forgiveness and reconciliation with him.
- **THE SOLUTION** - We believe that Jesus, the Son, provides the one way for us to become reunited with God. Through Jesus, God fully revealed his extreme love for humanity and unveiled his plan and purpose to reconcile the world to himself. Through Christ's death on the cross he made it possible for us to find forgiveness in a way that doesn't compromise the integrity of God's justice. Because Jesus was miraculously conceived by God as a human being born of Mary, and lived a perfect life, he died as a pure, sinless sacrifice for our sins. And because he rose from the dead he forever lives as our ascended Lord, our advocate and our friend.
- **THE CHURCH** We believe that anyone who chooses to be reconciled to God by accepting forgiveness through Jesus Christ becomes part of the Church - the living, active body of Jesus carrying on his ministry today. God calls his people to come together, empowers and transforms them by his Holy Spirit, and through them reaches out to hurting humanity.
- **THE BATTLE** - We believe that there is a battle going on between the spiritual forces of good & evil that affects all people in a very real way. It is the main goal of the rebel angel, Satan, and the forces of darkness, to promote the separation of man from God and seek ultimate control of this world. The good news is that through Christ, God has already won the definitive battle and is in the process of establishing his rule throughout creation.
- **THE FUTURE** - We believe that Jesus will return to earth to bring his victory to final completion and to establish his kingdom in its fullness, together with his Church. This is the inheritance of those who believe and have chosen to be reconciled to God through Christ.