

## **Child Evangelism Ministries, Inc.**

### **Declaration of Faith**

**Preface:** Child Evangelism Ministries (CEM) of Elkhart and LaGrange Counties is an independent, Biblical, Christian ministry. We hold a position of separation from worldliness and from modern and liberal interpretation of the Bible. Furthermore, CEM adheres strictly to a non-charismatic, non “signs and wonders” position, believing that these manifestations were unique to the Apostolic New Testament era as authenticating supernatural gifts necessary for that relatively brief period of time. We affirm that God still can and does perform miracles, but that He does so independently from the modern “signs and wonders” movement.

Any doctrinal statement is at best but a fallible attempt to define infallible, divine truth in a concise, yet always inadequate way. However, we offer the following Declaration of Faith as a summary of the essential foundations of our faith, as based on the Bible, God’s Holy Word.

**W**e believe in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the very Word of God, verbally inspired in all of its parts and without error as originally given of God. Furthermore, we affirm that the Godhead eternally exists in three persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, was truly God and truly man. Mankind was created in the image of God, but the whole human race lost its sinless innocence through the transgression of the first man, Adam. Therefore, no human can see nor enter the kingdom of God until he is born again by the Holy Spirit, regardless of whatever other acts of religious service or associations he may be involved in. We hold that Jesus Christ died as a substitutionary sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, and that whosoever believes in Him and in faith accepts His sacrificial death receives a new, spiritual nature, along with eternal life and a standing as a child of God. After death, Christ rose again in the same body that had been crucified, and He bodily ascended to Heaven. Those should who have trusted in Jesus Christ for salvation do, at death, pass immediately into His presence, and the souls of the deceased unbelievers, the lost, pass into eternal punishment and misery.

As God’s people, all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ are called into a life of separation from worldly and sinful practices, and should abstain from amusements, lifestyles, and habits that may cause others to stumble or bring reproach upon Christ. In addition, we believe in the personal, bodily, pre-tribulational, pre-Millennial return of the Lord Jesus Christ for His Church, the body of true believers, as a constant possibility.

Finally, we hold that the supreme mission of the people of God in this age is to preach the Gospel throughout the world, and we place special emphasis on the evangelization of children. (See reverse side for Scripture references.)

*\*Supporting Bible verses can be found on the 2<sup>nd</sup> page of this document.*

Supporting verses for the CEM Declaration of Faith are found in the following passages of the Bible:

Genesis 1:26-27

Deuteronomy 4:35

Daniel 9:24-27

Matthew 1:20; 18:14; 28:19

Mark 16:15-20

Luke 1:30-31; 16:22-23; 27-28; 23:43; 24:39

John 1:1, 14; 3:3,6,7,16; 5:24; 6:37, 44; 10:27-29; 14:1-3;15:26;16:13-14; 17:5, 17, 23

Acts 1:8, 10-11; 2:42-43; 5:3; 8:14-17

Romans 1:20; 3:25, 28; 4:3-5, 23-25; 5:8, 12; 8:7-9, 26-27, 35-39; 12:4-5; 13:14; 14:13

1 Corinthians 5:8, 18-19

Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 4:6-7; 5:16

Ephesians 1:2-3, 22-23; 2:10, 19-22; 4:1-3, 10; 5:25-27, 31-32; 6:11; 10:31

Philippians 1:6, 23; 2:5-7; 3:20

Colossians 1:13-14, 19-21

1 Thessalonians 1:10; 4:16-17; 5:9

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9, 2:6-8

1 Timothy 3:16

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Titus 2:13; 3:5; 4:15-18

2 Peter 1:20-21

Hebrews 1:3; 2:3-4, 9; 9:15, 27; 10:24-25; 13:5

1 Peter 5:8

1 John 2:1-2, 15-16, 19

Revelation 3:10; 12:9, 20:5, 10-15, 22:18-19