

## Young Life's Statement of Faith

**Description:** The theological principles upon which Young Life is built.

**Learning goal:** For leaders to understand the biblical, theological standpoint from which we minister. This gives them an opportunity to ask questions and agree to these principles.

### YOUNG LIFE'S STATEMENT OF FAITH

#### **Preamble**

*All those who participate in the ongoing work and witness of the Campaign shall be in sympathy with its central purpose of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In order to qualify for office, members of the Board of Directors, members of the regular and volunteer Staff and professors at the Young Life Institute shall subscribe to the following articles of faith:*

#### **Article I**

*The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments being given by divine inspiration, are the Word of God, the final and supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.*

#### **Article II**

*In the Scriptures, God reveals himself as the living and true God, Creator of all things. Perfect in love and righteousness in all His ways, this one God exists eternally as a Trinity of persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

#### **Article III**

*God made man in His image that He might have fellowship with him. Being estranged from God by his disobedience, sinful man is incapable of a right relationship to God apart from divine grace.*

#### **Article IV**

*The only Mediator between God and man is Jesus Christ our Lord, God's eternal Son, who as man fully shared and fulfilled our humanity in a life of perfect obedience.*

#### **Article V**

*By His death in our place, Jesus revealed the divine love and upheld divine justice, removing our guilt and reconciling us to God. Having risen bodily from the dead and ascended into heaven, He rules as Lord over all and interceded for us as our great high priest.*

#### **Article VI**

*The Holy Spirit, through the proclamation of the gospel, renews our hearts, persuading us to repent of our sins and confess Jesus as Lord. By the same Spirit we are led to trust in divine mercy, whereby we are forgiven all our sins, justified by faith through the merit of Christ our Savior, adopted into God's family as his children and enabled so to live in the world that men may see our good works and glorify our Father who is in heaven.*

#### **Article VII**

*God by his word and Spirit calls sinful men into the fellowship of Christ's body. Thus he creates the one holy, catholic and apostolic church, united in the bonds of love, endowed with the gifts of the Spirit and summoned by Christ to preach the gospel and to administer the sacraments, to relieve human need and to strive for social justice.*

**Article VIII**

*God's redemptive purpose will be consummated by the return of Christ to raise the dead, judge all men and establish his glorious kingdom. Those who are apart from Christ shall be eternally separated from God's presence, but the righteous shall live and reign with him forever.*

**Application:** Pick two articles from the statement of faith (maybe one that really hits home with you and one you want to understand better). Find a few passages or verses that support each, and think about how you would live this out as a leader. Also, if you have questions or clarifications on any part of the Statement of Faith, write those down to review with your training team/staff person next time you're together.