

## ***Our Statement of Faith:***

All teachings and activities within the group will support our statement of faith as stated below.

We believe the Bible is inspired of God and is inerrant and infallible in the original writings. We believe it is the only and final authority for faith and conduct. (II Timothy 3:16, II Peter 1:21)

We believe in one God, who is Creator of all things by a direct act, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons ---- Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Genesis 1:1, John 10: 30,37,38)

We believe by the miracle of the virgin birth that the Lord Jesus Christ, eternal Son of God, became man without ceasing to be God, in order to reveal God and to redeem man, that He died for our sins as substitutionary sacrifice and rose bodily from the dead for our justification. We believe He is now exalted at the right hand of God, that He is the Head of the Church, the Lord of the individual believer, that He is ministering as our Great High Priest and Advocate and that we are awaiting His bodily return. (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23, Luke 1:35, Hebrews 4:15, 7:25, 9:12, John 2:11, 11:25, Acts 1:11, Revelations 19:11----16)

We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and that He convicts the world of sin, regenerates the believing sinner, and baptizes him into the Body of Christ. We believe in the continuing ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life which is our holy calling. (Ephesians 5:18, 4:1,30, 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19,20)

We believe that salvation is the free gift of God (neither merited nor secured in part or in whole by any virtue or work of man) to be received only by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, in whom all true believers have, as a present possession, the gift of eternal life, a perfect righteousness, sonship in the family of God, deliverance and security from all condemnation, every spiritual resource needed for life and godliness and the divine guarantee that they will never perish. (John 3:16-19, 5:24, Romans 3:19, Ephesians 2:8-19, Titus 3:5-6) Last Revision: April 2016

We believe that man was created in the image of God, but that he sinned, incurring not only physical death, but also spiritual death, which is separation from God and which is inherited by every member of Adam`s race. (Romans 5:12-21)

We believe that the true Church is composed of all who have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and thereby constitute a spiritual unity of believers, the Body of Christ. (Romans 8:9, 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, Galatians 3:26-28) We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost -- they who are saved unto eternal life and those who are lost unto eternal damnation. (John 5:28,29)

## ***Our Philosophy:***

### **FAMILY**

We believe that the family is the basic governmental, social and spiritual unit created by God. In it, the child gradually learns self-government, social relationships, and develops a relationship to the Creator and Savior (Ephesians 6:1-3; Colossians 3:20).

### **PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN EDUCATION**

We believe the ultimate responsibility for the education of children belongs to parents (Deuteronomy 4:9; 6:1-25; 4:1-4; Psalms 78:1-4). We believe this is an inalienable right given by God, which the State cannot create, destroy, or alter.

### **NATURE OF EDUCATION**

We believe that all education is religious in nature, since one's view of the world and life inevitably is involved in teaching (Proverbs 2:1-8; 3:1-2; 6:20-23; Matthew 28:18-20); that every discipline of knowledge (whether it be a subject such as mathematics, science or history) will have as its final reference point a theistic or humanistic view of reality (Colossians 1:15-20; 2:8-15), and that there are not neutral academic disciplines. Thus, we believe that all social, physical and cognitive knowledge should have at its beginning, the fear of God, and as its end the glory of God (Proverbs 1:7; Romans 11:33-36). Last Revision: April 2016

## ***Purpose:***

The purpose of the Joy Homeschool Group is to work together with other like-minded Christian families to enhance our children's educational opportunities by exposing them to creative learning experiences in various activities. Our goal is to inspire our children to a love of learning. Our hope is that all members of the Joy Homeschool Group will earnestly seek the Lord to determine what they can bring to the group from their own life experiences to further enhance these opportunities for our children.

## ***Membership:***

Membership to Joy Homeschool Group is required to participate in the activities and classes offered by the group. Members can join at any time and is renewable on an annual basis (each July) for a fee of \$20. This fee covers the insurance for the group and other activities as the funding allows. Membership includes:

- Access to participate in group activities (some activities require fees specific to the activity, such as the admittance charge to a zoo, for example)
- Access to the group's closed forum for discussions and sharing of information
- Insurance coverage for group activities

- Funds from fees will go to subsidize graduation costs. Graduation costs are primarily funded by the graduates' families.

All other events (group parties, etc.) will be self-funded by the participants.

Two forms are required for membership: Statement of Faith agreement and Member Information form. Members can join via the Joy Homeschool Group website.

### ***Leadership Positions:***

Although our group will primarily be governed by the members of the group within our guidelines and Statement of Faith, there are a few key positions that need to be filled in order for the group to run effectively.

*Communications Lead* - this person will be on point to do any communications on behalf of the group from the organization standpoint (membership, group planning meetings, etc.)

*Social Media Lead* - this individual will maintain our Facebook page and provide the moderation needed to ensure posts/activity stays within the group guidelines and are supportive of our Statement of Faith.

*Website Lead* - this person will maintain the website for the group.

*Treasurer* - this individual will maintain the group funds, bank account, and will provide reporting to the group on a regular basis.

*Membership Lead* - this individual will maintain our membership list, including collecting payment of fee.

*Class Coordinator* - this individual drives the class offerings for each semester and ensures that all participants are Joy members. They work with the PBC Liaison on classroom assignments and general use of PBC.

*Peninsula Baptist Church Liaison* - this person is the liaison between the group and the church administrator. They are the point of contact to reserve rooms/space at the church. This person needs to be a member of PBC.

*Pastoral Advisement* - this is a pastor that fully endorses our Statement of Faith and, preferably, is a member of the group. They will provide advice, especially when questions regarding the statement of faith are in question. The PBC Connections Pastor is another pastor that will be consulted, as well, to ensure there is no conflict in the group's activity with PBC.