

Caroline County Sunday School Union Statement of Faith – What We Believe

The Sunday School Union (CCSSU) maintains an unqualified commitment to a historic, orthodox position on essential doctrines of the faith, as expressed in this document. CCSSU's approach to Scripture interpretation is from a grammatical, historical, and contextual viewpoint.

1. The Bible is the divinely inspired, infallible, inerrant, and revealed Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16).
2. God is revealed in the Scriptures as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, referred to as the Trinity (Colossians 1:15-18; Acts 5:1-4).
3. The Lord Jesus Christ is fully God. He was born of a virgin; He lived a sinless life; He performed miracles; He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He shed His blood to save sinners; He rose bodily and was seen by eyewitnesses; He ascended to the right hand of the Father, and all the earth will see Him when He returns in power and glory (John 8:58; Isaiah 9:6; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Corinthians 15:3-7, Acts 1:9-11).
4. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead and equal with the Father and the Son in every divine perfection. He convicts of sin regenerate, enlightens, endues for service, comforts, and guides believers (John 14:16-18, John 14:26).
5. All men in their natural state are sinners, lost, alienated from God, and spiritually dead: "All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) and, therefore, need salvation.
6. The Bible, inspired by God, is the final authority for all practices of sexuality, and God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, and attempting to change one's biological sex) is sinful and offensive to God (Genesis 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 11:12; Leviticus 18:1-30; Leviticus 20:13; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4; John 3:3-7; Jude 1:7).
7. Salvation is by grace alone, a gift of God, through repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, who died for our sins according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3). Those who thus receive Christ by faith have their sins forgiven (Ephesians 1:7) and their hearts cleansed (Acts 15:9), become born of the Spirit, become children of God (John 1:12-13) are made new creatures in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). They are eternally secure (John 10:28).
8. Only two Scriptural Ordinances exist Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism is a command of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Matthew 28:18-20). The Lord's Supper is for remembering Christ's death, burial, and resurrection with the anticipation of His return (1 Corinthians 11:26).
9. Christ personally instituted the Church, which He commissioned to make disciples of all nations, to baptize believers, and to teach them to do all things He had commanded (Matthew 16:17; 28:18-20).
10. There are only two classes of humanity in God's sight: saved and lost. The saved, those "Born Again" through faith in Jesus Christ, go to be with Him in conscious blessedness (Luke 23:39-43) after death and shall be raised bodily to live with Him eternally (1 Corinthians 15:35-49); the unsaved shall be separated from God at death and shall be raised bodily to be placed in eternal torment (John 5:28-29).
11. "Born again" Christians live a life dictated by the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:16-25; Colossians 2:6) and yield to God (Romans 6:13). All Christians are called to share their faith with others by word and deed (Matthew 28:16-20).