

The Rockford F.I.R.E. Statement of Faith (A)

Our Statement of Faith concerns the Person and Work of Jesus Christ (the Gospel) as revealed in Scripture. There are many other precious truths taught in the Bible over which godly men have differed in understanding. Therefore, this is not a statement of all that is important to believe, but it represents the basic principles upon which The Rockford F.I.R.E. was founded and continues to operate.

“Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus; that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 15:5-6.

All families participating in The Rockford F.I.R.E. agree to abide by this Statement of Faith. We believe:

...the Bible to be the infallible Word of God, the supreme and final authority for all faith and life.

...that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

...in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, His bodily resurrection, His ascension, and His imminent bodily return in power and glory.

...that man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and is therefore lost, and only those who put their faith in Jesus Christ alone can be saved.

...that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose substitutionary death on the cross provided forgiveness for man's sin.

...that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to convict men, indwell, guide, instruct, and empower the believer for godly living and service.

...in the spiritual unity of believers through our common faith in Jesus Christ and that individual secondary and tertiary doctrinal differences which may exist should not hinder unity.

Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

The Rockford F.I.R.E. holds a Biblical view of sexuality as primary doctrine (1 Cor. 6:9).

According to the Bible, God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct complementary sexes together reflect the image of God (Gen. 1:26–27). Rejection of one’s biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person. We believe:

...the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single exclusive union as delineated in Scripture for life, uniquely reflecting Christ’s relationship with His church (Gen. 2:18–25, Eph. 5:21–33).

...that any form of sexual immorality, including fornication, homosexual behavior, and bisexual conduct is sinful and offensive to God (Matt. 15:18–20, 1 Cor. 6:9–10).

...that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19–21, Romans 10:9–10, 1 John 1:9).

Denial of Membership Statement

Because The Rockford F.I.R.E. is not funded publicly, and for the safety and protection of its participants, The Rockford F.I.R.E. reserves the right to deny participation or membership to any applicant for any reason(s) undisclosed to the applicant. Upon such a decision by the board, a letter of denial will be sent, which may or may not include the reason(s).

The Rockford F.I.R.E. reserves the right to operate according to its sincerely held beliefs about Biblical marriage and sexuality. I agree with and will abide by this Statement of Faith. My agreement is documented and expressed through my decision to register or participate.

The Rockford F.I.R.E. Statement of Faith (B)

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and was made human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried. The third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son and is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets. We believe in one holy

catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.

In addition to the Nicene Creed, we affirm that the Bible is the infallible Word of God; that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness.

Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

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...the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single exclusive union as delineated in Scripture for life, uniquely reflecting Christ's relationship with His church (Gen. 2:18–25, Eph. 5:21–33).

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