

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

**2A. MISSION:** The Mission of SGTS is to help our students develop two capabilities:

- A mind for Biblical Scholarship
- A heart for the Gospel

Through these avenues: By discovering truth through the lens of Scripture, by developing their potential for Christian Service and by conforming to the image of Christ.

**2B. PURPOSE:** Our purpose is to further the great commission by preparing and equipping Christian Ministers and Teachers (men & women) who, within diverse denominations are Biblically and Theologically responsible, professionally competent, intellectually astute, spiritually mature and deeply committed to serving our generation by sharing the Good News of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Consistent with the truth that God's grace and His love through Jesus Christ extend without partiality to all mankind, SGTS admits students of any race, color, nationality or ethnic origin. We are committed to bringing Theological training to all those who seek our help, making a Christian Education affordable and attainable. SGTS has the right to expel any student, faculty, or board member, who fails to follow the guidelines of moral conduct set forth in the student catalog.

**2C. MOTTO:** Equipped To Serve

**2D. STATEMENT OF FAITH:**

1. We believe the Bible, the Holy Scriptures, to be the only inspired, infallible, authoritative Word of God in the original text and altogether sufficient in themselves as our only rule of faith and practice. Accepting fully the writings of both the Old (In the Masoretic Text) and New Testaments (Textus Receptus) as the very Word of God.
2. We Believe there is one God, eternally existent in three person; Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Matthew 28:19, II Corinthians 13:14.
3. We believe that the universe originated by the creative act of God, in a literal six day creation, as revealed in Holy Scripture, and that the form of every kind of life was fixed at the time of its creation. Genesis 1:1
4. We believe in the deity and humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in his sinless life, in His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His visible return to earth in power and glory. Colossians 1: 13-20.
5. We believe that all men are lost and sinful, and that salvation is received by the grace of God through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and by the regeneration of life by the Holy Spirit. Romans 3:23; Titus 3:5.
6. We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit as established in the Bible. John 17:20-23; I Corinthians 12:12-13
7. We believe that support and participation in the task of fulfilling the Great Commission is the responsibility of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. Matthew 28: 19-20.

These convictions provide the framework of our entire educational program. Everything we do as an institution, no matter how great or small must be consistent with these foundational beliefs.

# CODE OF CONDUCT

“SGTS has the right to expel from school any student or faculty member who does not follow the moral and ethical guidelines set forth in the student hand book.” Interpretation of these Moral Guidelines shall be determined by the faculty, Chancellor and Board of Directors of SGTS. A student may be placed in Academic or moral probation, if deemed necessary.

## MORAL GUIDELINES:

**CONDUCT:** A student or faculty member should live in a manner that is conducive at all times to the moral and ethical standards of Southwest Georgia Theological Seminary.

**SEPARATION:** We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord. God commands His people to separate from all religious apostasy; all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices, and associations, including the use of drugs and alcohol; and to refrain from all immodest and immoderate appearances. (Rom. 12:1-2; 14:13; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; 2 Tim. 3: 1-5; 1 John 2: 15-17; 2John 9-11; Lev. 19:28; 1 Cor. 6: 19-20)

**HUMAN SEXUALITY:** We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery and pornography are sinful perversions of God’s gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one’s gender by surgery or appearance. (Gen. 2:24; Gen. 19:5, 13; Gen. 26:8-9; Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1:26-29; I Cor. 5:1; 6:9; I Thess. 4: 1-8; Heb. 13:4)

We believe that the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman. (Gen. 2:24; Rom. 7:2; 1 Cor.7:10; Eph. 5:22-23) **LOVE:** We believe that we should demonstrate love for others, not only toward fellow believers, but also toward both those who are not believers and those who oppose us. We are to deal with those who oppose us graciously, gently, patiently, and humbly. God forbids the stirring up of strife, the taking of revenge, or the threat or the use of violence as a means of resolving personal conflict or obtaining personal justice. Although God commands us to abhor sinful actions, we are to love and pray for any person who engages in such sinful actions. (Lev. 19:18; Matt. 5:44-48; Luke 6:31; John 13:34-35; Rom. 12:9-10, 17 -21; 13: 8-10; Phil. 2:2-4; 2 Tim. 2:24-26; Titus 3:2; 1 John 3: 16-18)

All students enrolled at SGTS shall agree to a covenant of love, honor and respect for one another. Students also agree to cherish a brotherly love for all members of the school, to support the school in prayer, in offerings, and with other financial support as the Lord enables.

All students and faculty members alike will honor and esteem the leadership of the school, recognizing their authority in manners that pertain to this school. Further, that in accordance with biblical commands, each shall support through a lifestyle walk, an affirmation to the beliefs and practices of this school.

All administrators, instructors, and teachers shall continue or adopt a lifestyle consistent with the precepts which they teach, whether in or out of the classroom.

All educational programs or courses of instruction shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the teaching of the inerrant Word of God. Any assertion or belief, which conflicts with or questions a Bible truth, is pagan deception and distortion of the truth, which will be disclaimed as false. It is the responsibility of every instructor or teacher to present the inerrant Word of God as the sole infallible source of knowledge and wisdom.

All educational programs or courses of instruction shall be taught and presented in full accord with the Statement of Faith of the school. The school shall not hire, appoint, or retain any employee or volunteer, for its educational programs, who fails to adhere to the Statement of Faith.

Our final authority for moral and ethical conduct is the Word of God. Each student, administrator, teacher or instructor is subject to the mandates found within the Word of God.