**AWANA CLUBS MINISTRY**

**Doctrinal Statement**

**We believe: 1.** All Scripture is verbally inspired as originally written and therefore infallible and inerrant (2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:21, Matthew 5:18, 1 Corinthians 2:13). The Bible IS the Word of God. We CANNOT accept the misleading statement: "The Bible contains the Word of God." **2.** There is one living and true God who exists in three Persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19, 2 Corinthians 13:14). The Father is God (1 Corinthians 8:6); the Son is God (Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1, 14; Hebrews 1:8-10); and the Holy Spirit is God (Acts 5:3-4). **3.** The Lord Jesus Christ was born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 1:26-38). **4.** Christ rose bodily from the dead and ascended unto God the Father (Matthew 28, Mark 16, 1Corinthians 15, Romans 1:4). **5.** Christ will return: A. First, for the "dead in Christ" who will be resurrected bodily, and for those who are alive at His coming. This resurrection not only precedes His return to earth to reign 1,000 years, but also precedes the Tribulation (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:9). B. Then, to reign 1,000 years on the earth (Revelation 20:1-6, 2 Timothy 2:12). **6.** All men inherit a depraved nature and are lost sinners in need of salvation (Romans 3:9-19, Ephesians 2:1-3). **7.** God has provided salvation through offering His Son on the cross at Calvary, and allowing His blood to be shed to atone for our sins (Romans 3:25, Hebrews 9:22). **8.** We are saved and justified when we recognize ourselves as sinners, and put our trust in Christ as the Son of God and His finished work on the cross of Calvary. Salvation is by grace through faith plus nothing (Romans 3:24, 4:5; Ephesians 2:8-9). **9.** Once saved, we cannot be lost; we are eternally secure in Christ (John 3:16,10:27-29; Philip-pians 1:6; Romans 8:38-39). **10.** We believe that the baptism of the Holy Spirit takes place at the time of conversion and is the act of placing the believer into the body of Christ, but is not a second work of grace (1Corinthians 12:13, Galatians 3:27). It is different than the filling of the Holy Spirit which is an ongoing process that may occur at any time in the believer's life (Ephesians 5:18). Neither of these aspects is accompanied by unusual signs such as speaking in tongues. **11**-A. We should regularly participate at the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:23-32). **11**-B. All believers should be baptized by immersion as an act of obedience, but not for securing their salvation (Acts 2:41, 19:4-5; Matthew 28:19-20). **12.** The Bible teaches the eternal blessedness of the saved (John 4:14, 5:24; Ephesians 2:7) It also teaches the eternal punishment of the lost (John 5:28-29; Revelation 20:10, 15; Matthew 25:46). **13.** The grace of God teaches us to "live soberly, righteously, and godly" (Titus 2:11-13). A. Titus 2:13 - "Looking for that blessed hope" of His returning for us. B. Colossians 3:2-3, 1 John 2:15-17 - Setting our "affection on things above, not on things on the earth." C. 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 - Living a life of separation from the world. We believe in separation "unto God" (Romans 1:1, 16:17; 2 Corinthians 6:17-18; 2 Thessalonians 2:15, 3:6; 1 Timothy 6:3,5).

**POLICY:** Therefore, because of the AWANA doctrinal position and our understanding of the teaching of the Word of God, the AWANA Charter is not available to: (1) Churches that are supportive of the National Council of Churches (U.S.A. only) and/or the World Council of Churches; (2) Local churches identified with the Charismatic movement, although AWANA recognizes that there are many true believers involved in the Charismatic movement. AWANA has no intent to be divisive, but rather to safeguard that sacred responsibility God has entrusted to us in our ministry to boys and girls and teens. Only local churches, missions, and/or mission agencies may be chartered to use the AWANA program.