



Thank you for your interest in the ministry of Garden City Rescue Mission. This is an extension ministry of Victory Baptist Church in North Augusta. We operate under the guidance and blessing of this local church. Therefore the mission is operated in the spirit of an independent Baptist church.

Volunteers are a big part of the ministry here and we would have a tough time operating and serving the needy without the help of caring individuals and churches.

This packet will lay out some very important information for those interested in participating in activities at the rescue mission. Please read each section carefully.

If you will be involved in ministering during a chapel service, Bible study or other activity that involves a teaching role, please fill out and return the statement of faith and ministry form found on page 2.

May the Lord richly bless you as you serve Him today.

*Travis Sharpe*  
Director

# Statement of Faith and Ministry Form

*for*

## Garden City Rescue Mission

Dear Friend,

We understand that there are many differences between all of us as believers. It is not our intention to split hairs or claim that we are right and someone else is wrong concerning spiritual matters. We do however uphold sound doctrine as we see it in God's Word.

We ask that to avoid confusion and disharmony, all those wishing to minister at the rescue mission, hold the same major doctrinal beliefs as outlined in the Garden City Rescue Mission statement of faith.

Please read carefully the statement of faith and thank you for respecting our doctrinal position. If your beliefs do not align with those of the rescue mission, we respectfully ask that you do not partake in the preaching and teaching portion of this ministry.

Notes:

1. Please turn this form in to Brother Travis before requesting a time for ministering to the guests at Garden City Rescue Mission.
2. While preaching and teaching at the rescue mission, please us the King James Bible only.
3. Only men are permitted to preach. Ladies may give a word of testimony or encouragement but the leading of the service and preaching is reserved for men.
4. We ask that the preachers stay away from controversial topics and just simply preach sound Biblical messages.
5. Feel free to bring a piano player or singers with you. Most traditional hymns and songs are fine. We stay away from "Christian rock or rap" music.

I have read and understand the doctrinal position of Garden City rescue Mission. For the sake of Spiritual unity, and to respect the position of the rescue mission, I agree to stay within the boundaries of the doctrinal statement of the rescue mission.

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Signature Date

### **Serving a meal:**

Many of the meals served at the mission each week are prepared and served by our volunteers. We have churches, families, Sunday school classes and mission teams who come on a monthly basis and bring a meal. This is a huge help to us because it helps to keep our food cost down and is a great way to minister to others. If you would like more information on bringing a meal you may contact Travis Sharpe at 706-724-6960.

### **Preaching in a chapel service:**

We have five chapel services a week at the rescue mission. Normally the time is from seven until eight o'clock each evening. Saturday nights are special because we always have young preachers from Victory Baptist College. We ask that anyone wishing to preach or teach during a chapel service would read our doctrinal statement and fill out the ministry form in this packet. Brother Travis schedules the chapel preachers so you can call him at 706-724-6960.

### **Ladies at the mission:**

Many ladies help us on a regular basis. We have some guidelines for ladies at the mission that are put in place for your personal safety. Please remember that the homeless men are from all walks of life and we do not want to provide any temptation for them so we must dress accordingly and be safe at all times.

1. Please refrain from wearing any tight fitting clothing.
2. Please wear dresses or skirts that are at least knee length.
3. Ladies should never be alone with any guest of the mission at any time.
4. Ladies should not go outside alone or to the car alone.
5. Please leave purses and valuable in your vehicle or at home.

The trunk is a good place.

### **Children at the mission:**

Children twelve years of age and under will not be permitted at the Rescue Mission after guests have begun to check in. Guests come to check in at 3:30 PM every day. Children 13 years of age and older will be permitted, but only under the direct supervision of their parent or legal guardian.

## **Children at the mission (cont.):**

The staff and other volunteers at the Rescue Mission cannot be responsible for the supervision of any child who comes to the Rescue Mission.

Exceptions may be made upon request for special events such as school field trips, out of town church groups, etc.

Also, ladies who come to volunteer at the Rescue Mission must be accompanied by another lady or their husband. This policy is also during check in hours which begin at 3:30 PM daily and runs until 7 a.m. the next morning. We also ask that all ladies dress modestly when coming to the Mission.

### **Here are some guidelines for the children.**

1. Never leave a child unattended at the mission.
2. Parents must watch and control the children at all times.
3. Children should never be alone with any guest of the mission at any time.
4. Children should not go outside alone or to the car alone.

*The following comprise the Scriptural beliefs of Garden City Rescue Mission and its officers.*

**(A) The Holy Scriptures.** We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the verbally and plenary inspired Word of God. The Scriptures are inerrant, infallible and God-breathed and, therefore, are the final authority for faith and life. The sixty-six books of the Old and New Testament are the complete and divine revelation of God to Man. The Scriptures shall be interpreted according to their normal grammatical-historical meaning, and all issues of interpretation and meaning shall be determined by the pastor. The King James Version of the Bible shall be the official and only translation used by the church. (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:20-21)

**(B) Dispensationalism.** We believe that the Scriptures interpreted in their natural, literal sense reveal divinely determined dispensations or rules of life which define man's responsibilities in successive ages. These dispensations are not ways of salvation, but rather are divinely ordered stewardships by which God directs man according to His purpose. Three of these dispensations—the law, the church, and the kingdom—are the subjects of detailed revelation in Scripture. (Gen. 1:28; 1 Cor. 9:17; 2 Cor. 3:9-18; Gal. 3:13-25; Eph. 1:10; 3:2-10; Col. 1:24-25, 27; Rev. 20:2-6)

**(C) The Godhead.** We believe in one triune God, eternally existing in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—each co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, coequal in power and glory, and having the same attributes and perfections. (Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; John 14:10, 26)

**(D) The Person and Work of Christ.**

1. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful men. (Isa. 7:14; 9:6; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-2, 14; 2 Cor. 5:19-21; Gal. 4:4-5; Phil. 2:5-8)

2. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice; and, that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead. (Acts 2:18-36; Rom. 3:24-25; 1 Pet. 2:24; Eph. 1:7; 1 Peter 1:3-5)

3. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to Heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate. (Acts 1:9-10; Heb. 9:24; 7:25; Rom. 8:34; 1 John 2:1-2)

#### **(E) The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.**

1. We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; and, that He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling and sealing them unto the day of redemption. (John 16:8-11; Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 3:6; Eph. 1:13-14)

2. We believe that He is the divine Teacher who assists believers to understand and appropriate the Scriptures and that it is the privilege and duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit (Eph. 1:17-18; 5:18; 1 John 2:20, 27)

3. We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowal of spiritual gifts to every believer. God uniquely uses evangelists, pastors, and teachers to equip believers in the assembly in order that they can do the work of the ministry. (Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-11, 28; Eph. 4:7-12)

4. We believe that the sign gifts of the Holy Spirit, such as speaking in tongues and the gift of healing were temporary. Speaking in tongues was never the common or necessary sign of the baptism or filling of the Holy Spirit, and that ultimate deliverance of the body from sickness or death awaits the consummation of our salvation in the resurrection, though God frequently chooses to answer the prayers of believers for physical healing. (1 Cor. 1:22; 13:8; 14:21-22, Ephesians 2:20)

**(F) The Total Depravity of Man.** We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God; but that in Adam's sin the human race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God. Man is totally depraved and, of himself, utterly unable to remedy his lost condition. (Gen. 1:26-27; Rom. 3:22-23; 5:12; 6:23; Eph. 2:1-3; 4:17-19)

**(G) Salvation.** We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, Whose precious blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins. We believe that all sins, except blasphemy of the Holy Spirit, are forgivable. (John 1:12; Eph. 1:7; 2:8-10; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; Matt. 12:31-32; 1 John 1:9)

## **(H) The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers.**

1. We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever. (John 6:37-40; 10:27-30; Rom. 8:1; 38-39; 1 Cor. 1:4-8; 1 Pet. 1:4-5)
2. We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh. (Rom. 13:13-14; Gal. 5:13; Titus 2:11-15)

## **(I) The Church**

1. We believe that the local church, which is the body and the espoused bride of Christ, is solely made up of born-again persons. (1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 11:2; Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-27)
2. We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures. (Acts 14:27; 20:17, 28-32; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11)
3. We believe in the autonomy of the local church free of any external authority or control. (Acts 13:1-4; 15:19-31; 20:28; Rom. 16:1, 4; 1 Cor. 3:9, 16; 5:4-7, 13; 1 Pet. 5:1-4)
4. We recognize water baptism and the Lord's Supper as the Scriptural ordinances of obedience for the church in this age. (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 2:41-42; 18:18; 1 Cor. 11:23-26)

**J) 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, and to refrain from all immodest and immoderate appearances, piercings, and bodily markings. (Rom. 12:1-2; 14:13; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9-11; Lev. 19:28; 1 Cor. 6:19-20)

**(K) The Second Advent of Christ.** We believe in that blessed hope, the personal, imminent return of Christ Who will rapture His church prior to the seven-year tribulation period. At the end of the Tribulation, Christ will personally and visibly return with His saints, to establish His earthly Messianic Kingdom which was promised to the nation of Israel. (Ps. 89:3-4; Dan. 2:31-45; Zech. 14:4-11; I Thess. 1:10; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; Rev. 3:10; 19:11-16; 20:1-6)

## **(L) The Eternal State.**

1. We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment. (Matt. 25:46; John 5:28, 29; 11:25-26; Rev. 20:5-6, 12-13)

2. We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when spirit, soul, and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord. (Luke 23:43; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; 3:21; I Thess. 4:16-17; Rev. 20:4-6)

3. We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious punishment and torment until the second resurrection, when with soul and body reunited, they shall appear at the Great White Throne Judgment, and shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment and torment. (Matt. 25:41-46; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 16:19-26; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Jude 6-7; Rev. 20:11-15)

**(M) The Personality of Satan.** We believe that Satan is a person, the author of sin and the cause of the Fall of Man; that he is the open and declared enemy of God and man; and that he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire. (Job 1:6-7; Isa. 14:12-17; Matt. 4:2-11; 25:41; Rev. 20:10)

**(N) Creation.** We believe that God created the universe in six literal, 24-hour periods. We reject evolution, the Gap Theory, the Day-Age Theory, and Theistic Evolution as unscriptural theories of origin. (Gen. 1-2; Ex. 20:11)

**(O) Civil Government.** We believe that God has ordained and created all authority consisting of three basic institutions:

- 1) *the home*
- 2) *the church*
- 3) *the state*

Every person is subject to these authorities, but all (including the authorities themselves) are answerable to God and governed by His Word. God has given each institution specific Biblical responsibilities and balanced those responsibilities with the understanding that no institution has the right to infringe upon the other. The home, the church, and the state are equal and sovereign in their respective Biblically assigned spheres of responsibility under God. (Rom. 13:1-7; Eph. 5:22-24; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 2:13-14)

## **(P) Human Sexuality.**

1. 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; 1 Cor. 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4)

2. 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)