

## Welcome to NCFCA

We are honored to partner with like-minded individuals, families, schools, and organizations from all over the United States in achieving our mission.

## **NCFCA Mission Statement**

to challenge and equip ambassadors for Christ to communicate truth with integrity and grace

# **Foundational Beliefs**

NCFCA is a non-denominational Christian organization, and our Foundational Beliefs are integral to who we are both in word and deed. The Nicene Creed has been the Statement of Faith since the beginning of the league in 2001 because it is the most universally affirmed, time-tested confession of faith that outlines the core tenets of Christian orthodoxy. This statement serves as a unifying statement of belief for all Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox faith traditions. The specifics included in the Creed are foundational to defining "Christ" in our mission statement and as such, those wishing to participate in the league will need to affirm that they are active in a Protestant, Catholic, or Orthodox faith tradition.

#### Statement of Faith

#### **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-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic [i.e., universal] and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen





#### **Position Statements**

For more than two thousand years, the Christian church has held almost exclusively accepted viewpoints on the veracity and inerrancy of Scripture and on issues related to marriage and biblical sexuality. Acknowledgement of what constitutes a "Christian worldview" based on these beliefs has gone largely without dispute until the last decade.

Current societal norms, both inside and outside the church, have challenged the clarity with which NCFCA once operated and required us to resolutely affirm what Scripture has to say about two issues.

### Scriptural Inerrancy

We believe that the Bible in its entirety "is breathed out by God" (2 Tim. 3:16), is inerrant in its original autographs (Prov. 30:5; 2 Pet. 1:20-21), and is "profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:17).

### Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of NCFCA Christian Speech & Debate as an organization and to provide a biblical role model to NCFCA affiliates and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by NCFCA in any capacity and NCFCA affiliate families agree with this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality (Matt 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Thess 5:22).

- We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct sexes together reflect the image and nature 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 that God has created marriage to be the lifelong union of one man and one woman (Gen. 2:18-25). This union uniquely reflects Christ's relationship with His Church (Eph. 5:21-33). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4). 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 sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, or use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).







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- We believe 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; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11).
- We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Unloving and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the mission of NCFCA.

## **Core Values**

## **Godly Wisdom**

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. Proverbs 9:10

Godly wisdom is the right use of knowledge. Once we know the Lord, wisdom requires us to obey Him and follow Him wholeheartedly. Everything we do begins with our desire to obey and glorify God. However, godly wisdom isn't just spiritual; it is practical and applies to every type of skill and area of life. For example, the same word for wisdom used in Proverbs is also used to describe the wisdom God gave to craftsmen and women (see Exodus 28:3, 31:3, 35:26). We value the right use of knowledge in every context, the use of knowledge that is most glorifying to God.

### **Redeeming Truth**

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Philippians 4:8

As Christian communicators, we value messages of redeeming truth. God has entrusted us with the good news that not only humanity but all of creation is being redeemed through Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-19; Romans 8:18-23). God's redemptive work is happening throughout the world, and we have the privilege of discovering, meditating upon, and communicating whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent, and praiseworthy in all areas of life.





#### **Gracious Communication**

Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person. Colossians 4:6

We want Christians to boldly speak truth and be prepared to give an answer in every situation. In order to know how we ought to answer each person, the Bible says that our speech must always be gracious and seasoned with salt. "Salty" speech isn't dull or flat but is flavored with a spice that captures the attention of the listener. Gracious speech comes from a heart of love and respect for both God and our fellow man. Since death and life itself are in the power of the tongue (Proverbs 18:21), we want to be faithful stewards of that power by speaking words of life and truth in a gracious, respectful, and interesting way.

## **Enduring Excellence**

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. Colossians 3:23–24

Our commitment to excellence is based on our desire to do our best for the Lord. We value work that is done heartily and well and includes a singular focus on the Lord rather than on man. Working for the Lord rather than man means that we value a work-life balance that honors our God-given responsibilities in all areas of life. It means we value investments and activities that reap enduring rewards rather than just short-term gains. It means we value the praise and inheritance we receive from Christ more than winning a tournament and receiving the praise of man.

## **Constructive Community**

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17

We are committed to engaging with one another in ways that refine, encourage, support, and challenge one another to be our best. Therefore, we value a constructive community that promotes honesty, transparency, collaboration, and evaluation. Together, we make each other better.

