



A Ministry of Bell Shoals Baptist Church
2102 Bell Shoals Road
Brandon, FL 33511

The Families Instructing Students at Home (FISH) Statement of Faith is a broad declaration that we consider vital for furthering of this ministry. It is required that all persons seeking membership be able to agree with this statement. This is not an attempt to overrule denominational distinctions. Rather, it is a means for those of varying denominational persuasions to unite in the simple truths and precepts of God's Holy Word.

1. The Holy Scriptures are the inerrant, infallible, and totally trustworthy Word of God and our supreme authority on all matters of truth. We affirm that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the great theme of all Scripture and that the Bible is sufficient to reveal all we need to know concerning God's purpose to save sinners.
2. There is only one God, eternally existent in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. Our Lord Jesus Christ is God and Man in one Person. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, and vicariously atoned for sin through His shed blood and death. He was bodily resurrected from the dead. He ascended to the right hand of God the Father, and He will personally return in power and glory.
4. Regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for the salvation of the lost and sinful man.
5. Eternal life is received by faith, that is, trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation.
6. The Holy Spirit indwells all true believers and enables them to live a godly life.
7. Both the saved and the lost will be resurrected from the dead, they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
8. There is spiritual unity of all true believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.
9. The local church is the primary God-established institution for furthering His work including, among other things, worship, edification, and evangelism.
10. Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment. The family is the primary God-established institution for training children in righteousness and in preparation for their life purpose.
11. The gift of gender is part of the goodness of God's creation; gender identity is determined by biological sex and not by one's self-perception – a perception which is often influenced by fallen human nature in ways contrary to God's good design.
12. Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography.

By signing the "Statement of Faith" affirmation on the Membership Application, I do declare that I agree and adhere to the principles set forth herein and am applying for membership to F.I.S.H., a ministry of Bell Shoals Baptist Church.