

## **HOMEWOOD CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION POLICY**

- I. The **MISSION** of Homewood Christian Association is to support Christian home schooling families in our area by helping them connect through joint service to one another in order to provide fellowship and educational opportunities.
- II. The **GOALS** of Homewood Christian Association are:
  1. To glorify the Lord Jesus Christ in all our activities and communications.
  2. To provide opportunities for families to support and encourage one another in our efforts to educate our children at home.
  3. To offer educational and social opportunities for our home schooled children and parents.
  4. To establish a link in a chain for information to be passed on to individual home schooling families from local, state and community-wide home school organizations.

### **III. Homewood Statement of Faith**

1. The Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God and constitutes completed and final revelation. The Bible, in its original autograph, is without error in whole and in part, including theological concepts as well as geographical and historical details.
2. God has existed from all eternity in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ was God who came in human flesh being fully God and fully man except without sin.
3. All men are in violation of God's righteous requirements and His holy character both by nature and by act, and therefore are under His wrath and just condemnation. The central purpose of the coming of Jesus Christ was to pay the penalty for man's sin through His substitutionary death on the cross—the successful accomplishment of which was attested to by His subsequent visible, bodily resurrection.
4. Salvation is offered as a gift, free to the sinner. This gift must be responded to in individual faith, not trust in any personal works, but in the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ alone.
5. We hold as a belief and conviction that biblical marriage is ordained by God as a union solely between one man and one woman. Children are given by God as a stewardship to the parents (father and mother) and not the state. Further, we hold that parents have the wherewithal and authority to educate their own children. (Prov. 22:6, Deut. 6:6-7, Eph. 6:4)

### **IV. Homewood Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality**

1. We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen 1:26-27.) Rejection of one's biological sex at birth is a rejection of the image of God within that person.
2. We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen 2:18-25.) 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.
3. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10).
4. We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Homewood as a biblically Christian organization, and to provide a biblical role model for all Homewood members and the community, it is imperative that all Homewood members agree to abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. (Matt 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Thess 5:22).

## **HOMEWOOD CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION POLICY**

5. 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).
6. We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31.) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the policies of Homewood. This includes bullying of any kind.

### **V. Homewood Policies for Private and Public Activities**

Because we are representing Jesus Christ, as well as Homewood, in our conversation, attire, and behavior, we ask that members follow these policies while attending Homewood events.

#### **A. Homewood Activities**

1. Homewood events are planned by the membership of Homewood, not Homewood leadership. Planned events shall follow the requirements as set forth in this Policy document.
2. Homewood events are open for attendance only by Homewood members who have signed a current school year waiver form.
3. Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children during Homewood functions. Children (or parents) who behave in a manner that is out of control or damages the reputation of the group will lose the privilege of attending future functions.
  - a. Please restrain your children from running in buildings and climbing on structures that are not playground equipment.
  - b. Encourage children to demonstrate respect and listen to the tour guides, leaders, or staff members.
  - c. Show respect for property by disposing of all trash and by leaving the area as it was found.
4. Restitution for property damage caused by any student, sibling, parent, or their guests will be the sole responsibility of the person(s)/family causing the damage and not Homewood Christian Association. This applies to all venues for official Homewood events: church facilities, homes of members, field trip locations, library, or any other location used for an official Homewood event.
5. The use of alcohol, tobacco products, vaping, or illicit drugs are not allowed at any Homewood function.

#### **B. Homewood Code of Conduct**

1. As a Christian organization, our members are to conduct themselves in ways that honor Christ, bring glory to God, and share His love with others.
2. Homewood members are to refrain from bullying of any sort. We are to reflect the love of Christ in how we interact with others.
3. Pornography of any sort is unacceptable at any Homewood event.
4. Profanity (either spoken or written) of any sort is unacceptable at any Homewood event. Words that come from our mouths shall be edifying and God glorifying.
5. Members shall be respectful of others, especially those in authority.
6. Members are to refrain from inappropriate/immoral use of technology (phones, tablets, computers, televisions, etc.) including music, images, videos, games, and apps at any Homewood event.

## **HOMEWOOD CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION POLICY**

### **C. Homewood Dress Code**

Because we are representing Jesus Christ as well as Homewood in our conversation, attire and behavior, we ask that members please dress modestly and in good taste. This dress code applies to both parents and children at Homewood Events.

1. Shorts may be worn, but not short-shorts.
2. Skirts and dresses must be at least of mid-length (to the knee).
3. Midriffs, halter tops, halter dresses, spaghetti straps, strapless tops, strapless dresses, tight or low cut clothing are not to be worn.
4. Swim attire for swimming events shall be modest swimwear as follows:
  - a. For girls - swimsuits should be a one piece, or a tankini that comes down to the bottoms. Bottoms must have appropriate coverage.
  - b. For boys - loose fitting swim trunk style. Speedo style suits are not acceptable.
5. Undergarments should not be visible.
6. Clothing with inappropriate graphic designs or inappropriate written messages may not be worn.
7. Attire shall be appropriate for an individual's biological gender.

Non-conformance to the dress code will result in the individual being asked to leave the event until appropriate attire is worn.

## **VI. Homewood Branding and Media Policy**

### **A. Homewood Communications**

All official Homewood communications will be conducted only through the Homewood forum and website.

### **B. Homewood Branding**

Homewood prohibits the creation and use of any social media platform (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor) to generate a "Homewood" forum, or to publicly represent Homewood through the use of name and logo, without prior approval from the Homewood Steering Committee.

### **C. Photographs and Videos**

Out of respect for the privacy of our Homewood families, photos or videos of others taken at Homewood events should not be published for public (outside of Homewood) distribution in any form, or on any internet site, including but not limited to social networking sites, such as Facebook.

## **VII. Homewood Membership Requirements**

1. Family is currently home schooling at least one child.
2. Family agrees with the Homewood Statement of Faith and the Homewood Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality.
3. Family agrees to abide by all Policies governing Homewood.
4. Family agrees to serve at a minimum of one Homewood event or activity per year.
5. Family has paid annual membership dues and annual waiver form is current.

Members who consistently display overtly self-serving agendas may risk losing Homewood membership. Examples of this include joining Homewood for the purpose of advertising a business or of promoting a political or social agenda.

Members of Homewood who consistently disregard Homewood policy will be asked to leave Homewood Christian Association with no refund of membership dues.

## ***HOMEWOOD CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION POLICY***

### **VIII. Interpretive Authority**

Homewood's Statements and policies as set forth in this document do not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of Homewood's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, Homewood's Steering Committee is the final interpretive authority. Updates to Homewood policy will be communicated by Homewood leadership upon approval by the Homewood Steering Committee.