



OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH AS CHRISTIAN COUNSELORS WITH AWAKEN360

People are Created on purpose, with a unique Purpose, and when anchored in Truth, are empowered to achieve their Purpose, experiencing a fruitful and fulfilling life.

Founding Scripture:

*Awake O' Sleeper. Rise up from the dead, and Christ will give you light.
Ephesians 5:14*

About God

God is the loving Creator of all that exists, both seen and unseen. God is eternal and completely good, knowing all things, having all power and majesty. God exists as the Trinity, in three distinct persons, yet one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God passionately desires a relationship with us and towards this end continually invites us into a relationship of faith, friendship, learning, and service. (Genesis 1:1; John 14:6-9; 15-17; 16:7-15; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 4:9-10)

About Jesus Christ

God expressed himself in human form through Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Jesus Christ is fully man and fully God. He is the perfect reflection of God's character and glory. Born of the Virgin Mary, he lived an exemplary, sinless life and offered himself as the only perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on the cross. All who believe in him are declared righteous on the basis of his death.

He rose physically from the dead, ascended to heaven and will return again to earth to reign forever with those who are his. (Colossians 1:13-23; 2:8-14; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8; Matthew 22:36-40; 1:18-25; John 1:1; 8:40,58; 11:33; 14:1-3; Hebrews 1:1-8; Acts 1:9-11; 10:42-43; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Romans 5:8-10)

About the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit, sent from God to live inside all who believe in Jesus Christ, teaches, comforts, and empowers us, giving each follower diverse gifts, fostering unity, interdependence, productivity, Christ-like character, love among Christians and charity towards those in our communities. The believer receives the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation. The empowering of the Holy Spirit, the promise of the Father, is available for every Christian. (Acts 1:8; 2:4; Romans 5:5; 8; 1 Corinthians 12-14; Galatians 5:16-25; Ephesians 3:16; 4:3-4; 5:18; John 14:26; 16:7-14)

About the Bible

We believe that God speaks to us in the Bible. It is our privilege to seek to understand God's message and we are blessed by applying it responsibly to our lives. The Bible is

our standard and authority in all we say and do. We believe that God inspired the authors of the Bible to write what they wrote and therefore through their writings we can read what God wants us to understand and live out. The Bible is trustworthy and the final authority on all matters to which it speaks. We believe that God's unchangeable Biblical message ought to be presented free of religious jargon and understandable to the people of our community. The Bible, God's word to us, is central to our relationship with God and each other. The Bible makes clear that certain truths are essential convictions of the Christian faith. These Truths are the foundation on which we build our lives and our understanding of what "healthy" is. In Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, it is the Bible on which we formulate the Truth with which we reframe faulty thinking. (Matthew 5:17-19; 2 Timothy 3:16; 3:14-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2; Peter 1:16-21; 2 Peter 3:14-18; Joshua 1:7-8; Acts 17:11; Psalms 19:7-11; 119:9-16,105)

About People and Salvation

All people are created with dignity and value in the image of God, to live in a vital relationship with God. However, through our sin, we break our intended relationship with God, fall short and we experience the destructive consequences of that broken relationship, spiritually and socially, in this life and beyond. However, God sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to rescue us from those eternal consequences and to restore our broken relationships with God and others, through Christ's death on the cross, a perfect act of redemption for each of us. Salvation comes to people on the basis of God's grace through their faith in Jesus alone. They receive the free gift of forgiveness and are spiritually reborn through repenting of their sin and believing in Jesus Christ. Good works and a holy life, although good, is totally unable to save anyone, but is the natural product of repentant and believing people seeking to please God. (1 Peter 2:24; 3:18; Romans 3:9-28; 6:23; 10:9-10; John 3:16; 5:24; Ephesians 2:1-10; Titus 3:3-8; James 2:14-26)

How We Operate: Believers or Non-Believers

Truth: Jesus dined with non-believers.

We are all sinners. Some have accepted Jesus' offer to wear our shackles for us and to serve our sentence so we can be free. Others have chosen to hold out, choosing to continue wearing the shackles they don't realize they even have yet. That is the only difference between us; a choice. We are all equally sinners, equally "messed up", and equally broken in need of someone to save us from what we cannot save ourselves.

At Awaken360 we are sitting across from other believers who want to root into Truth found in His Word, and at times we are sitting across from someone who is still just like us. Only they are in life choosing not to accept His gift. We identify no matter what because we've all been there too. When our client has chosen not to accept the gift Jesus offers, we help them to identify the areas of their life that are jiving well, and the areas of their life they want to change and we help them find healthy living by rooting in the truth they identify.

And as he reclined at a table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and his disciples for there were many who followed Him. And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that He was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to His disciples, "Why does He eat with tax collectors and sinners?" And when Jesus heard it, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick, I came not to call the righteous, but the sinners." Mark 2:15-17

What does AWAKEN360 believe about transgender and homosexuality?

Great question. Right now many non-believers are saying you should and can create your own reality. Christians are saying scripture proclaims homosexuality and transgender to be wrong, whereas other Christians are quoting scripture saying scripture supports love in all forms.

AWAKEN360 first views anything that separates us from God as sin. Example, alcohol is not inherently bad, but when alcohol compromises our character, changes our choices and reactions, and opens a door to further separation from living the life designed for us, then in that moment, alcohol becomes an anchor for separation from the life we were created to live and the mission we are here to accomplish.

We view sin as sin, and we all fall short of living perfectly. In short and more directly, Awaken360 believes the Bible is very clear regarding the slippery-slope sin creates; sexual sin being no different. Awaken360 views biblical marriage to be between a man and a woman. Sex is safest and is healthy when it occurs within the structure of a healthy marriage commitment between a man and a woman. Scripture speaks clearly, repeatedly, and consistently to this view and our biology testifies to its truth. That being said, we work with clients from every walk of life. This may be something you have chosen to live by and do not view it as wrong. We at Awaken360 still want to dine with you and encourage you to still want to dine with you. At the end of the day, you're not perfect and neither are we. We are all people trying to make a way in this world. We've chosen to accept the gift Jesus offers. You may not have. But we were where you are at at one point in our life too. If you ever have questions or would like to sit down and discuss our varying viewpoints I hope you reach out. We don't have to agree to encourage, support, and be there for one another.

Does AWAKEN360 only provide biblically based counseling intervention with empirically studied and validated treatment methods?

No. When our client's beliefs align with ours and they ask us to recognize The Counselor, building our treatment approach incorporating His Word, then we geek out and love it. When we have clients who say they do not want anything Christian or biblical being brought in, then we go strictly textbook and leave the Bible on the shelf. We meet our clients right where they're at. No judgment because who are we to judge? Remember, we are all the same, save for a choice.