

What We Believe...

Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.

I. Statement of Faith

- ❖ We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
- ❖ We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- ❖ We believe that Adam, created in the image of God, was tempted by Satan, the god of this world, and fell. Because of Adam's sin, all men have guilt imputed, are totally depraved.
- ❖ We believe that salvation consists of the remission of sins, the imputation of Christ's righteousness, and the gift of eternal life, received by faith alone, apart from works.
- ❖ We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful people, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is essential.
- ❖ We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
- ❖ We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by who's indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
- ❖ We believe that the church, the body of Christ, consists only of those who are born again, who are baptized by the Holy Spirit into Christ, for whom He now makes intercession in heaven and for whom He will come again.
- ❖ We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of eternal life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of eternal damnation.
- ❖ We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- ❖ We believe that Christ commanded the church to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature, baptizing and teaching those who believe, and that the natural outcome of such activity leads to the establishment of local congregations.

II. Our Goals and Core Values

SOWING SEEDS OF JOY strives for global reach, excellence, and collaboration in all its events, experiences, strategies and operations. SSOJ is committed to *being Relational, Intentional, Strategic, and Evangelistic in our global reach.*

The following core values guide all that we do:

- **Integrity.** All our actions and relationships are based on honesty, authenticity, accountability, and trust.
- **Collaboration.** Working together creates a better result by tapping into our collective wisdom. Our work is focused on collaboration from beginning to end. We engage existing churches and other organizations in cooperative efforts to establish effective kingdom building strategy worldwide.
- **Spirit of Excellence.** Passion, innovation and a commitment to serve drive us to deliver the highest quality work. Because lost people matter to God, they matter to us. We go to serve, not to be served. We work where the Gospel is least known because we have been commanded to

- do so, and because people's ultimate need is to find eternal life through a personal relationship with God.
- **Global awareness.** Achieving diversity within our staff and program participants helps increase mutual understanding of our world and its people.
 - **Professionalism.** All our actions reflect on ourselves and our partners. We act and communicate with courtesy, respect and discretion.
 - **Service.** We care deeply about our beneficiaries, sponsors and colleagues and respond to their needs with flexibility, reliability, and dedication.
 - **God Dependence.** We subject our lives to the truth of Scripture, and we rely on God through prayer. God provides what is necessary to carry out world evangelization. While only God can save, we speak His words, use His gifts, and reflect His love. It is His work and our hands. Without constant reliance on God through prayer and obedience to His Word, we can do none of these things.
 - **Vision.** Christian visionaries see the immediate future considering eternity. We see the day when the people of God from every tribe, tongue, people, and nation will be gathered around the throne of heaven, worshipping Him. Keeping our eyes on this vision, we are adaptable and flexible, gladly changing methods when appropriate. We believe as stated in Psalm 126, "So those who planted their crops in despair will shout hurrahs at the harvest, So those who went off with heavy hearts will come home laughing, with armloads of blessing."
 - **Lifelong Learners.** Character and competence are both indispensable. None of us starts with complete maturity or fully developed skills. Through lifelong learning and development, we increase our effectiveness and become what God already knows we can be. We seek to empower all SSOJ servants of Christ to reach their full potential.
 - **Relational Community.** People are our most valuable assets. We in SSOJ relate to each other in a community characterized by unity, trust, acceptance, and diversity, linking arms with God's people wherever we find them; we meet people where they are. We are accountable to one another, evaluating ourselves regularly. The more we are a caring community, the more we demonstrate peace and brotherhood to a world torn apart by divisive hatreds.

III. Commitment to Financial Integrity

We believe that tithing is a responsibility of a believer to their local church, whereas giving is a believer's responsibility above his tithe to distribute his resources as God would direct him. Thus, we will never encourage believers to support Sowing Seeds of Joy at the expense of supporting their local church.

We believe that it is important to maintain our Christian witness before the world and in the eyes of the government. Thus, we will provide receipts for tax purposes for every tax-deductible gift.

We believe we are accountable to God and to fellow believers for the responsible use of our resources. Thus, we will use the resources that God provides in accordance with biblical and practical stewardship.

We believe that it is a blessing for all Christians to be able to share in a responsible ministry through their financial giving, and therefore share in the fruit of that ministry. Thus, we will make our needs known in an honest and straightforward manner, trusting that God will provide for this organization.

We believe it is important to remain committed to evangelizing in as many places as the Lord and our resources will allow. Thus, revenue above the cost of operations will be used to create new avenues for Christian mission trips, the teaching of biblical principles, and equipping pastors, and leaders, and missionaries with ministry tools that will facilitate growth.