# INDIA GOSPEL LEAGUE / STATEMENT OF FAITH

We are committed to the authority of the Word of God and the Lordship of Jesus Christ. As a result, we believe:

#### L GOD:

We believe in One God, Creator and sustainer, perfect in holiness, infinite in wisdom, measureless in power, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who in the Bible and in Jesus Christ has revealed Himself to be the living and true God. We rejoice that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

### II. CHRIST:

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's eternal Son, our Lord, the only Mediator between God and man who, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, fully shared and fulfilled our humanity in a life of perfect obedience. By His death in our place, He made a sacrifice for the sin of the world and by His bodily resurrection gained victory over death and the powers of evil. He ascended into heaven where He intercedes for His people and rules as Lord over all. He will personally and visibly return to the world to consummate His Kingdom.

### III. HOLY SPIRIT:

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who came to renew our hearts, calling us to repent of our sins and confess Christ as Lord, thereby receiving the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life, being justified through faith in Jesus Christ. The work and gifts of the Holy Spirit enable the believer to live a holy life, to witness effectively to the Gospel, and to serve responsibly in the world.

### IV. SCRIPTURE:

We believe that the Bible, composed of the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, written by men divinely and uniquely inspired, is the Word of God, the only infallible, absolutely trustworthy authority in all matters of faith and conduct. Scripture is to be interpreted according to its context and purpose and in obedience to the Lord, who speaks in living power through each book.

## V. MAN:

We believe in the dignity of man created in the image of God for fellowship with the Creator and to share responsibility towards the creation. Tempted by Satan, man rebelled against God. All men are sinners by nature and by choice, estranged from God and subject to His wrath, depraved and apart from Grace, incapable of returning to God. All men are sons of Adam, made of one blood, and have equal access to God in the church of Jesus Christ.

## VI. THE CHURCH:

We believe in the Church, the universal Body of Christ, the new redeemed humanity which is being called out of the whole human race and formed in every culture and transforming every culture and which is summoned to worship God and to serve Him by preaching the Gospel and discipling the nations by striving for social justice and relieving human distress and need. To enable the Church to fulfill these ministries, God gives gifts to the members of His Church for tending the flock and equipping the saints for ministry. We believe that proclaiming the Gospel to all people is the first priority in the mission of the Church between the Resurrection and the Second Coming of Christ.

### VII. CHRIST'S COMING:

We believe in the personal and visible return of Jesus Christ to complete God's work of redemption and Judgment. We believe that those who believe in Christ as Savior and Lord will rise to live and reign with Him forever in a new heaven and new earth. We believe that judgment and separation from the presence of God awaits those who do not believe. This motivates our service in expectation of Him who makes all things new.

### VIII. CHRIST'S COMMISSION:

We believe in Christ's Commission: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age," (Matthew 28:19-20). The supreme mission of the people of God in this age is to preach the Gospel to every creature.