

## Statement of Faith

Operation Inasmuch, Inc. is a Christian, non-denominational nonprofit organization whose purpose is to assist congregations to mobilize their members into their own community to minister to people at their point of need. As a Christian ministry, Operation Inasmuch, Inc. offers a limited Statement of Faith as one of the principle ways of defining who we are and what we believe God has called us to do and to be. While this Statement is not an exhaustive, detailed theological treatise in that it addresses only the areas of biblical teaching that relate most directly to the work of the ministry, it is intended nevertheless to establish our identity so that individuals and congregations may understand that identity and relate to and/or work with Operation Inasmuch, Inc. as their conscience dictates.

### Scriptures

Operation Inasmuch, Inc. believes that the Bible is the primary authority for faith and practice. Inspired by God, the Bible is still relevant and completely sufficient as it helps us understand God's love and purpose for our lives.

### Jesus Christ

Operation Inasmuch, Inc. believes that Jesus of Nazareth is the one and only Son of God, fully God and fully man, whose death was a sacrifice for our sins. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we are made right with God and are able to live an abundant life. We believe the New Testament calls all people to submit to the authority of Jesus as God's final word on right living. We believe that Jesus calls his followers to follow his example in ministering to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of people as set forth in Luke 4, Matthew 25, and elsewhere in the Scriptures.

### The Church

Operation Inasmuch, Inc. believes that the church is the body of Christ, an extension of Christ's life and ministry in the world today. We believe the work of the church is to carry on the proclamation of the gospel and compassion ministry began by Jesus himself. We further believe that compassion ministry is a form of gospel proclamation and should, wherever possible, include a clear witness to the saving work and compassionate ministry of Jesus Christ.

## **Terms of Collaboration**

One of the values of Operation Inasmuch, Inc. is that of bringing people and congregations of various Christian denominations, races and cultures together to minister to people in need thereby cultivating a spirit of cooperation and unity. The following Objectives and Terms of Collaboration are offered to help congregations and faith-based groups determine whether their use of the services and resources of Operation Inasmuch, Inc. is consistent with their identity and practices.

### **Objectives**

In bringing congregations and other faith-based groups of various Christian denominations, races and cultures together Operation Inasmuch, Inc. endeavors to . . .

- Provide experiences and images of Christian unity and cooperation while respecting each other.
- Provide ministry to more people in need by mobilizing greater numbers of Christian volunteers.
- Provide greater impact on communities.

### **Terms of Collaboration**

Every congregation or faith-based group desiring partnership with Operation Inasmuch, Inc. is asked to...

- Work in agreement with the Operation Inasmuch, Inc. Statement of Faith and Terms of Collaboration herein presented.
- Practice a spirit of Christian unity and cooperation characterized by mutual trust and respect in working with other congregations and faith-based groups.
- Refrain from promoting their own beliefs to or proselytizing among Inasmuch volunteers.

The Operation Inasmuch Board of Directors reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of collaboration.