

# SCRIPTURE UNION HUNGARY

## STATEMENT OF BELIEF

### 1. God and the human race :

We hold that the Lord our God is one :Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and that he fulfils his sovereign purposes in creation, revelation, redemption, judgement, and the coming of his kingdom by calling out from the world a people united to himself and to each other in love.

**We acknowledge that though God made us** in his own likeness and image, conferring on us dignity and worth and enabling us to respond to himself, we now are members of a fallen race; we have sinned and come short of his glory.

**We believe that the Father** has shown us his holy love in giving Jesus Christ, his only Son, for us, while through our sinfulness and guilt, we were subject to his wrath and condemnation; and has shown his grace by putting sinners right with himself when they place their trust in his Son.

#### **We confess Jesus Christ**

as Lord and God ;

as truly human, born of the virgin Mary ;

as Servant, sinless, full of grace and truth ;

as only Mediator and Saviour, dying on the cross in our place, representing us to God, redeeming us from the grip, guilt and punishment of sin ;

as Victor over Satan and all his forces, rising from death with a glorious body, being taken up to be with his Father, one day returning personally in glory and judgement to establish his kingdom.

#### **We believe in the Holy Spirit**

who convicts the world of guilt in regard to sin, righteousness and judgement ;

who makes the death of Christ effective to sinners, declaring that they must now turn to Christ in repentance, and directing their trust towards the Lord Jesus Christ ;

who through the new birth makes us partake in the life of the risen Christ, and

who is present within all believers, illuminating their minds to grasp the truth of Scripture, producing in them his fruit, granting to them his gifts, and empowering them for service in the world.

### 2. The Scriptures

We believe that the Old and New Testament Scriptures are God-breathed, since their writers spoke from God as they were moved by the Holy Spirit ; hence are fully trustworthy in all that they affirm ; and are our highest authority for faith and life.

### 3. The Church and its Mission

We recognise the Church as the body of Christ, held together and growing up in him; both as a total fellowship throughout the world, and as the local congregation in which believers gather.

**We acknowledge the commission of Christ** to proclaim the Good News to all people, making them disciples, and teaching them to obey him.

**We acknowledge the command of Christ** to love our neighbours resulting in service to the church and society, in seeking reconciliation for all with God and their fellows, in proclaiming liberty from every kind of oppression ; and in spreading Christ's justice in an unjust world until he comes again

## WORKING PRINCIPLES

We seek to exercise the ministries God has given us in obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ and in reliance on the Holy Spirit. We therefore aim to follow Biblical principles in all that we do and to emphasise the vital importance of prayer.

We approach our work in the following ways:

### EVANGELISM AND TEACHING

We are committed to teaching basic Christian truths as an essential part of evangelism.

We aim to express God's Good News to children, young people and families, not only in words, but also by building caring relationships with them.

We make every effort to communicate the Gospel in contemporary language and in ways appropriate to the context.

We emphasise that faith should always lead to action and to growth in Christian character and service.

We acknowledge that the Gospel has inescapable social dimensions and therefore it involves us in service to others and a concern for social justice. In view of our specific aims, we have a special responsibility for children and young people who are poor, deprived or exploited.

We encourage children to follow Christ in ways that are appropriate to their age, culture and background, taking special account of their home and family situation and level of maturity.

We believe that the new birth is a profound supernatural experience, brought about by the Holy Spirit. So we invite people to respond to what He is doing in their lives and guard against calling for superficial responses.

We are committed to working in ways that reflect our beliefs, in appropriate co-operation with organisations and institutions, such as schools, that welcome us.

### BIBLE MINISTRIES

In encouraging people to meet God through the Bible, we emphasise the significance of the Bible as a whole.

We encourage people to read it so that they come to repentance, faith, obedience to God and worship.

We prepare systematic programmes and materials for children, young people and adults, appropriate to their age and situation.

We are committed to Bible reading which is thoughtful, prayerful and regular and which enables the reader to respond to the message of the whole Bible rather than to isolated passages.