

A pastor had written to me to ask me about my doctrinal position, statement of faith. . . (Some folks at his church want me to come and speak to homeschoolers.) This is what came out of my heart in response. My own unique statement of faith.

Dear Dave,

Thanks for writing. My husband and I attend Shoreline Community Church in Shoreline, WA, which we have done for the past five years. The pastor, Bob Stone, is the man who married us 31 years ago in Bellingham. . . :)

I became a Christian in 1970, during the Jesus People Revival in Seattle, at the Catacombs Coffee House. From that point, I wandered around in the Jesus people for several years (not a lot of discipling or doctrine at that point!). In 1975, I went to WWU in Bellingham and got deeply involved with Campus Christian Fellowship, part of the Chi Alpha college ministries of the Assemblies of God.

It was there (in that group) that I began to study apologetics, doctrine, ethics, etc. -- studying Francis Schaeffer's "How Shall We Then Live?" really began to bring a lot of things together, along with the study of French philosophy and literature (which was my major). I had planned to become a missionary to France, hence the French major. That goal shifted after a summer mission's experience in Belgium. . .

When my husband and I got married, we sought to follow the Lord in a committed, faith-walk. Actually prayed that He would teach us what it meant to "live by faith"!! :) Studied a lot of the Christian biographies of missionaries (Hudson Taylor, Gladys Aylward, Amy Carmichael, etc.) and folks like George Muller, which helped structure our view of trusting the Lord.

In 1999, we took our family to Auckland, NZ, to do a YWAM DTS school, which was an amazing, grace-filled experience. After the 5 months of school, our family traveled the entire nation, speaking to homeschooling families.

Currently, we sit on our church's missions board, my curriculum is published by Answers in Genesis, I have books published by Emerald Books (a division of YWAM publishing) and Apologia. I've spoken throughout NZ, Australia, in Hungary, Scotland, England, Thailand, Canada, and in nearly all 50 states of the U.S.

All of this to say that we are mainstream evangelical in our doctrinal beliefs, we are passionate about loving and obeying the Lord, seeking to please Him in every area of our lives. We seek to bring to the Body of Christ hope, encouragement, joy, laughter, and insight into God's ways in family life.

We have served the homeschooling community for the past twenty years, eking out a living at this (we're still doing it because of the leading of the Lord). My gift in this area, beyond being an energetic, transparent and humorous speaker, is to encourage people to trust the Lord and to love their families.

Hope this helps!!! Didn't think you wanted just a "I believe the Bible is true" kind of response. (Which, by the way, I do believe!!)

Thanks,

Diana