



**Bylaws, Faith and Practices
of**

NOW Ministries, Inc.

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**BYLAWS
OF
NOW MINISTRIES, INC.**

ARTICLE I

Name and Location

- 1.1 The name of this organization is NOW MINISTRIES, INC. which is a nonprofit organization as governed by the Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act referred to herein as "NM" or "Corporation."
- 1.2 The principal location of NOW Ministries shall be in the State of Virginia. The Board of Directors is hereby granted full power to change the principal location if needed. Such changes shall not be considered an amendment to these bylaws.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

2.1 General Purpose

The Corporation is organized and shall operate as an exempt charitable, religious and educational organization within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended (or similar provision of any future revenue law) without profit to any officer or director of the Corporation.

2.2 Specific Purpose

The specific purposes of NW shall include without limitation the following:

- a. Serve as a vehicle to share the love of Jesus Christ by providing spiritual, emotional and financial assistance through events, outreach, conferences and programs as the need arises and we are able.
- b. Preach and expound the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to the Holy Scriptures through evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, and benevolence toward both non-Christians and Christians.
- c. Obey the Great commission as stated in the Scriptures:
To go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. *(Mark 16:15)*
To teach and baptize. *(Matthew 28:19-20)*
To heal the sick. *(Luke 9:1-2)*
To bring deliverance to the captives. *(Luke 4:18)*

ARTICLE III

Prerogative

3.1 Right to Govern

This Corporation shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the New Testament Scriptures. *(Ephesians 4:3-13)*

This Corporation has the right to prescribe such rules and regulations as to the conduct of their own affairs as it may think proper according to the Holy Scriptures. In keeping with the charitable, religious, and educational purposes of the Corporation and the laws of the land.

3.2 Right to Hold Title

This Corporation is a Corporation in deeds, mortgages, contracts, promissory notes, and other legal documents.

3.3 Sovereignty

This organization shall maintain its inherent rights to sovereignty in the conduct of its own affairs and shall be independent, non-denominational, and charismatic. It may voluntarily be affiliated with other ministries and organizations of "like precious faith."

ARTICLE IV

Statement of Faith

The Holy Scriptures contain many doctrines, too numerous to warrant inclusion in this statement of faith; however, due to false teachings and the errs that may ensue, we believe that certain doctrines must be set forth as those upon which we must agree – so that we may persevere for like purposes and proclaim the same message. (*Acts 2:42*)

4.1 Word of God

We believe the Holy Bible:

To be the verbally inspired, infallible, authoritative Word of God. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, meaning that the Holy Spirit gave the very words of the sacred writing to holy men of old. His divine inspiration is not in different degrees, but extends equally and fully to all parts of those writings whether historical, poetical, doctrinal, and prophetic to the smallest word and inflection of word, provided such word is found in the original manuscripts.

Is composed of 66 books and divided into two sections as the Old and New Testaments.

To be without any error, the all-sufficient authority in matters of faith, doctrine, and Christian living.

(*Psalms 19:7-11, Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:16-21, 1 Corinthians 2:13, Mark 12:26, Mark 13:11, Acts 1:16, Acts 2:4*)

4.2 Trinity and Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

God the Father

We believe in God the Father as Creator of Heaven and Earth, perfect in holiness, infinite in wisdom, and measureless in power. We marvel and rejoice that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer and that He saves from sin, its power over our life, and from spiritual death. He also removes the fear of physical death from all who come to Him through faith in the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ upon the Cross.

(*Genesis 1:1, 11, 24-28; Deuteronomy 4:35; Psalms 5:4-6, 14:1, 23:1-4, 47:2-3, 8-9, 96:11-13, 145:18, 147:5; Isaiah 40:28, 43:10-13, 44:6; John 1:1-3, 3:36, 5:18, 6:27; Romans 1:20, 6:1-13; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; Colossians 1:15-17; 1 Timothy 2:5; 1 John 1:5; 2:1-2; Revelation 3:20, 19:6*)

Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is God manifest in flesh.

(*John 1:1-3; 1 Timothy 3:16; Luke 1:35; Matthew 1:23; Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:18-25; John 1:1-14, 5:17-18, 8:58, 10:30-33, 11:25, 14:6-7, 20:27-29; Ephesians 3:9, Colossians 1:15-16, Colossians 2:8-9; Philippians 2:9-11; 1 Timothy 1:15-17*)

The Rapture

We believe in the personal and bodily return of our Lord Jesus Christ for His Church (the Rapture). After the Tribulation He will return with His saints to the Earth to establish his Kingdom of righteousness. Thus bringing to fruition all the unconditional promises made to the nation Israel.

(*Luke 1:30-35; 1 Timothy 2:6; Romans 3:25-26; 2 Corinthians 5:14; Hebrews 10:5-14; 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18; 1 John 2:2; 1 Corinthians 15:1-58, Hebrews 4:14-16; John 2:1; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:9-10; Revelation 19:1-21, 20:1-15*)

The Holy Spirit

We believe in the deity and the personality of the Holy Spirit and that He is said to be eternally “proceeding” from the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit was God’s agent in the revelation and the inspiration of His Word. It is the Holy Spirit who performs the work of salvation in the heart of the individual believer, indwells believers, and bestows spiritual gifts upon them.

(*1 Corinthians 2:11, 3:16, 6:19-20, 12:1-13; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 4:30, 5:18; John 15:26, 16:7-8, 13-14; Genesis 1:2; 2 Peter 1:21; Acts 5:3-4, 13:2; Hebrews 3:7-9, 9:14; Matthew 28:19; Titus 3:5; Romans 5:5, 2 Corinthians 1:22*)

4.3 Sin and Justification

We believe that man was created in innocence under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from his sinless and happy state. In consequence, all mankind are now sinners, not only by constraint, but of choice, and there under just condemnation without defense or excuse.

(*Genesis 3:16; Romans 1:18, 20, 32, 5:19, 3:10-19; Ephesians 2:1-3, Galatians 3:22*)

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners “must be born again.” All who receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become the children of God. By the new birth, one dead in trespasses and in sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God. The new birth is brought about in a manner above our comprehension, not by culture, not by character, not by the will of man, but wholly and solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, faith and newness of life.

(John 1:12-13, 3:3,8; Galatians 2:26, 5:22; Acts 16:30-33; 2 Corinthians 5:17, 19; 1 John 5:1, 3:6-7; 2 Peter 1:4; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:1, 5:9; Colossians 2:13)

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as belief in Him is justification:

- a. It includes pardon of sin and the gift of eternal life on principles of His righteousness.
- b. Is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer’s blood. His righteousness is imputed unto us.

(Acts 13:39; Isaiah 53; Zechariah 13:1; Romans 4:1-8, 8:1, 5:1, 5:9; Titus 3:5-7; Romans 1:17; Habakkuk 2:4; Galatians 3:11, Hebrews 10:38)

4.4 Biblical Repentance

True biblical repentance is available to people who have committed sin. People who commit sin should repent quickly. True repentance is purging the sin out of your life because you abhor it (truly detest and hate it) and are totally committed to walk away from it and never do it again.

- a. God wants everyone to repent from sins (true Biblical repentance) there is no other alternative. *(2 Peter 3:9, Luke 13:1-5; Revelation 2:5)*
- b. Let being sorry or sorrowful lead to true repentance. *(2 Corinthians 7:9-10; Romans 2:4-6; Hebrews 12:14-17)*
- c. We should confess our sins and repent of them. *(1 John 1:6-9)*
- d. We should depart from iniquity and cleanse ourselves (turn from it). *(2 Timothy 2:19-21; 2 Corinthians 7:1)*
- e. We should deny ungodly behavior and worldly lusts. *(Titus 2:11-12)*
- f. True repentance means we go and sin no more. *(John 8:11)*

4.5 Sanctification

We believe that sanctification (to be “set apart”) is the process by which God makes us partakers of His holiness. It is progressive and is begun in regeneration and continued in our hearts by the work of the Holy Spirit in connection with self-denial, watchfulness and prayer. It is completed at the return of Christ for His own. *(1 Corinthians 6:11; 2 Peter 3:18; 1 Thessalonians 3:13; 1 John 3:2)*

4.6 Baptism of the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is an endowment of power on the believer and that the initial evidence is the speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance. The gifts of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12) are resident in the Holy Spirit and imparted to those who have been filled with the Spirit and are still operational in the Church. *(Luke 11:44-46, 19:6)*

4.7 Water Baptism and the Lord’s Supper

We believe there are two ordinances of the church: Baptism and the Lord’s Supper. We believe that water baptism, although not essential for salvation, is public testimony of the believer’s identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and is by immersion in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that Christ instituted the Lord’s Supper to commemorate His death until He comes. It should never be engaged in without examination and all are invited to the Lord’s Supper who have confessed their faith in Christ and are leading a Christian life.

(John 3:23; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32; Luke 22:19; Matthew 26:27)

Prayer of Faith and Divine Healing

4.8

We believe God has included within Christ’s work of atonement the provision for divine healing, which may be instantaneous or progressive. In particular, the prayer of faith is outlined for all believers in the Book of James, and it relays the promise of healing. Of note, we do not practice this doctrine to the exception of medical treatment, whether by miracle, medicine, or both; ultimately it is the Lord who heals. *(Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:16-17; mark 16:14-18; Exodus 15:26)*

4.9 Return and Resurrection

We believe that through the power of Almighty God there will be a resurrection of all the dead. For the just, a resurrection unto life and for the unjust, a resurrection unto condemnation and eternal punishment. (*1Thessalonians 4:13-18; John 5:28-29*)

We believe in the blessed hope, the imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for those who are fallen asleep in Him, and for His living saints, which is to be followed in order by: the Tribulation, the Second Coming of Christ on the earth for one thousand years (Millennium), the eternal state of punishment for the unsaved, and the eternal state of blessing for the saved.

(*1Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:50-55; Acts 1:11; Titus 2:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 5:4-10; Revelation 3:10, 20:1-6, 11-15; Matthew 24:21-29, 30:25-46*)

4.10 Sexuality, Gender and Marriage

Sexuality and Gender

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, and attempting to change one's biological sex or otherwise acting upon disagreement with one's biological sex) is sinful and offensive to God. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

(*Romans 1:24-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 13-16; Galatians 5:19-21; Matthew 5:27-28; Hebrews 13:4; Mark 7:20-21; Ephesians 5:5; Jude 7*)

As an ecclesiastical nonprofit corporation (religious organization) we specifically choose against the provision of services, accommodations, facilities, goods, or privileges to an individual if such request is in violation of the corporation's religious beliefs as duly set forth in the corporation's governing documents, policies, and the Holy Scriptures. However, any and all such decisions shall be carried out in a manner that would cause anyone seeking their salvation to believe that this organization does sponsor, support, and implement the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a means of being delivered from such abominable activities.

Marriage

We believe that God wonderfully and immutable creates each person as male and female. (*Genesis 1:27, 2:18-25*)

These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Rejection of one's biological gender is a rejection of the image of God within that person. We believe that term "marriage" has only one meaning and that marriage sanctioned by God joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union. (*Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 1:9-10, 7:2; Hebrews 13:4*)

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of our faith and to provide a biblical role model to the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by NM in any capacity or who serve as volunteers, should abide by and agree to this statement and conduct themselves accordingly.

It is not our intent to discriminate against anyone. We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of the Church.

4.11 Sanctity of Life

Procreation is a gift from God, a precious trust reserved for marriage. At the moment of conception, a new being enters the universe, a human being, a being created in God's image. It is therefore to be nurtured, supported and protected. From the moment of conception, a child is a human being with all of the developing characteristics of human life, and this life is dependent on the mother for its continued development. Therefore, we believe that human life must be respected and protected from the moment of conception. NM believes in striving to protect against abortion, embryonic stem cell research, euthanasia, and the withholding of reasonable medical care to the disabled or elderly.

(*Job 3:16; Psalms 51:5, 139:14-16; Isaiah 44:24, 49:1,5; Jeremiah 1:5, 20:15-18; Luke 1:44*)

ARTICLE V

Government

According to the laws of the state of Virginia and the provisions of the Internal Revenue Service governing non-profit organizations, shall be the President and Board of Directors.

5.1 General Powers

The affairs of NW shall be managed by its Board of Directors and any other officers deemed necessary to carry out the work and purposes of the corporation.

5.2 Vacancies

Any vacancy in the Board of Directors shall be filled by appointment and vote of the Board of Directors.

5.3 Removal

Any individual on the Board of Directors may be removed as determined by the Board of Directors whenever in their judgment the best interest of the corporation would be served.

5.4 Duties and Powers – President

The President shall be the principal executive officer of NM and shall in general supervise and control all of the business and affairs of NM. The President shall determine the general policies and best financial and operating interests of the Corporation, and shall be vested with the authority to determine and further the nonprofit, charitable, religious, and educational purposes of the Corporation.

The President shall have general oversight of all spiritual matters concerning the ministry, according to the Holy Scriptures. The President shall function as shepherd, teacher, and leader for the ministry.

5.5 Duties and Powers – The Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall exercise the following specific powers:

- a. To exercise all powers necessary for the dissolution of the ministry corporation.
- b. May delegate the management of the activities of the Corporation to any person or persons, management company, or committee, however composed provided that the activities and affairs of the corporation shall be managed and all corporate powers shall be exercised under the direction of the Board of Directors.

5.6 Duties of all Officers

A Director may not resign if their resignation would cause the corporation to be without any Directors. A Director does not automatically become an Officer of the Corporation; however they can be elected to be an Officer. Any officer who neglects his or her duties as outlined in the bylaws or fails to adhere to the statement of faith and maintain Christian character may be removed from his or her office at the discretion of the President and another may be appointed by the President to serve the unexpired term.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

6.1 Annual Meeting

The Board of Directors shall meet quarterly and once a year.

6.2 Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called as needed at the request of the President.

6.3 Quorum

A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board.

6.4 Informal Action by Board of Directors

Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors or any action which may be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing setting forth the action so taken shall be signed by all of the members of the Board of Directors.

6.5 Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the ministry shall begin July 1 and end June 30.

ARTICLE VII

Finance

7.1 Funds

All funds for the maintenance of NM shall be provided by the voluntary contributions, gifts or donations of the friends of the organization.

7.2 Regular Remuneration

No salaries are to be paid to the President or any board members.

7.3 Reimbursements

In as much as any Board Member may from time to time use his or her personal finances for an approved expense, he or she will be entitled to reimbursement from the general fund. These expenses must be pre-approved by the President or the Board of Directors. In addition, reimbursements may also be paid to other individuals under the same guidelines.

ARTICLE VIII

Amendments

8.1 Bylaws

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed in whole or in part; or new Bylaws may be adopted by the Board of Directors provided that notice of such alteration, amendment, repeal, or adoption of the new Bylaws be contained in the notice of such meeting of the Board. All such amendments must be approved by an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX

Nonprofit Purposes and Dissolution

9.1 Nonprofit Religious Purposes

NOW Ministries, Inc. is a nonprofit ecclesiastical corporation organized exclusively for charitable, religious, and educational purposes, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code. In addition the Corporation may operate other divisions which further the charitable, religious, and educational purposes of the Corporation.

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of its Directors, Officers, or to any other individual except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in the furtherance of the purposes set forth in these Bylaws.

No substantial part of the activities of this Corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and this Corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including publishing or distributing statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws, the Corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any other activities not permitted to be carried on:

- a. By a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provision of any future federal tax code; or
- b. By a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

In furtherance of its religious, non-for-profit, tax-exempt purposes, the Corporation shall have the following powers and authority:

- a. To do all acts, perform all functions and carry on all activities permitted by the nonprofit corporation laws in the state of Virginia.
- b. To have and exercise all powers and rights enjoyed by corporations, generally in the state of Virginia, and in any state which the Corporation is qualified to act as long as the exercise of such powers is not specifically prohibited for nonprofit, charitable, religious and educational corporations.
- c. To use all media, whether now known or hereafter discovered, including but not limited to: print, television, radio, internet, and social media.
- d. To exercise such incidental powers as may reasonably be necessary to carry out the purposes for which the Corporation is established, provided that such incidental powers shall be exercised in a manner consistent with its tax-exempt status as a charitable, religious, and educational organization as set forth in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

9.2 Dissolution

Upon dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the Corporation, transfer or convey all of the remaining assets of the Corporation to one or more non-profit domestic or foreign corporations as shall then be exempt organizations within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

The President of the Board of Directors of NOW Ministries, Inc. of Virginia will be ex officio member of this dissolution Board and will have senior voice in the guidance of all distribution of properties in their rightful places.

ARTICLE X

Indemnification

- 10.1 The Corporation shall indemnify a person who was or is a party or is threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the Corporation) by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director or officer of the Corporation, against expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees), judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding to the extent provided by the provisions of the Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act, including when such act shall be amended.

ARTICLE XI

Insurance

- 11.1 The Corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director or officer of the Corporation, against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the Corporation would have the power of the obligation to indemnify him or her against such liability under the provisions of this Article.
- 11.2 In the event any controversy, claim, or dispute arising from or related to these Bylaws cannot be settled in accordance with these Bylaws, it shall be settled by Christian mediation and if necessary legally binding arbitration in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and with biblically based rules. Judgment upon arbitration decision may be entered in any court otherwise having jurisdiction. The parties understand that these methods shall be the sole remedy for any controversy, claim, or dispute arising out of these Bylaws and they expressly waive their rights to file a lawsuit in any civil court against one another for such controversies, claims or disputes, except to enforce arbitration decision.