

### *A Sample Statement of Corporate Confession*

We, the Christians who call Groton Bible Chapel “home” are a blessed people. For our God is the one who made and saved us. He is the One who sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be not just the Savior of the world but the Savior of our souls and source of our grateful praise and worship.

We, the GBC family, see ourselves as living in a very tumultuous and troubling time in world history. Our Chapel family has been brought together by our Heavenly Father from many different places and from many different cultures and ethnicities. Since He is the God of the nations, we thank and praise Him for this diversity.

Additionally, we affirm that our God and Father has granted us both a vision (“Reflecting the LORD Jesus Christ to a needy world”) and a will to work together to fulfill this vision and see God’s blessing in our collective lives. In the words of our recent “Nehemiah studies”, you have helped us rebuild a “wall of community and ministry” that has encouraged many to see the glory of our God. For all this we are profoundly thankful and offer our thanks and worship to God the Father and His Son, our LORD Jesus Christ.

But we are a people who live in difficult times. Our country was founded to be a “city on a hill” that encouraged other nations to see the greatness of God. But we and our forefathers, as citizens of the United States of America, became proud of our position of greatness within the world. We failed to see the breadth of God’s compassion for all people and so endured a terrible Civil War. The legacy of that racism endures to this day.

But You heard the cries of your people and provided freedom from slavery and wealth beyond imagination to generation upon generation of immigrant peoples who came to this country.

We became proud of our military and technical prowess that successfully defeated the powers of fascism, Nazism, Communism and regimes that were hostile to the God of the Bible. But that national pride turned toward a justification for material pursuits without the restraint of Christian stewardship, for pleasure as an end without the moderation of Christian morality, and for political policies without the focus of Christian theology. As a result we became a “hollow people”, holding on to empty bank accounts, depleted capacities to enjoy God-ordained sexuality, and religious practices that entertained but didn’t lead people into God’s presence.

We are slaves to intergenerational debt, poor in the matters of marital commitment and wanderers in a sea of conflicting opinions about our future. As members of Christ’s body we have not integrated our Sunday mornings with all the other days of our week.

Therefore, we repent and bow before the God of heaven and earth. And in making Him central to our personal and community lives we commit to:

[1] Read His Word, the Bible, daily ...seeking every opportunity to praise and practice what it says...

[2] Renew our personal and primary relationships... seek to pray for and spend time with those member of our “inner circle”, whether they be spouses, children, parents or extended family...

[3] Remember to worship God daily as households and weekly as a Chapel family... we want our God to be at the center of our lives together.

[4] Resolve to act Christianly in our business, social and political worlds...representing and reflecting the greater kingdom of our LORD and Savior, Jesus Christ...seeking to speak genuinely and with passion about the grace of Christ to all whom God grants us an audience.

[5] Rebuild a legacy of God’s oversight in our lives...not just for our actions but for those of those we will influence for generations to come. We will care for the weak (whether children or aged or disabled), for the weary (whether those overcome by addiction, debt or destructive lifestyles) and for the wayward (whether they realize their “lost-ness” or not).

These things we confess and commit to in the name of Jesus Christ our great LORD and Savior.