

Faith Statement

By David John

Introduction: Hey everyone, my name is David John, and I am a sophomore at Minnehaha Academy. I'd like to start with a short prayer, please pray with me: Dear Lord, thank you for bringing us all together to hear these faith statements. Please help my words to impact others in a positive way, and to shine light on your amazing grace. Amen.

Throughout my whole life, my relationship with God has been changing constantly. The fact that Jesus died on the cross to save my life has played a big part in my faith, just knowing how much God loves me. I say 'yes' to God because I do believe in the trinity and have faith in God to protect me throughout my life. Although I sometimes feel that my sin is beyond saving, I know that because of God's ultimate sacrifice, I am able to be cleansed of my sin. So as I live out every day, I try to thank God constantly for his grace shown to me.

Living with faith in Jesus Christ impacts me every day of my life, in many ways. It is important to me because not only did Jesus sacrifice his life to save us, he set a perfect example as living out God's word. If I can try and act more like Jesus in my daily life, I would be able to set the best impression as a Christian following God. So I should carry out the fruits of the spirit in both how I talk to others, and also my actions that affect others. I am involved in many activities at school, and I love playing sports too. I play basketball and tennis for Minnehaha Academy, and love playing baseball outside of school too. Something I especially try and do is incorporate faith into sports, as hard as it may seem. While most sports are focused only on winning and competition, showing my faith can be done during a game—whether it's helping a teammate or showing love to your competitors. Simple acts of kindness in our daily lives can show God's love, just as Jesus did.

When the challenges of life come, and when the storms and temptations confront you, it is easy to lose faith in God. It can be easy to lose hope that God is with you, and sometimes it may even feel that God has forgotten you. In Isaiah 40:31, it is written, “but those who have hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” This passage shows the strong power of God, and how maintaining hope through hard times can result in success.

Last year was a challenging year because I had to see my grandpa suffer from a Pancreatic Cancer, and he passed away last May. Then in February of this year, I had to see my other grandpa also die, which also terribly impacted me. It was especially hard at first, and sometimes I forgot that God was with me.

As I mentioned earlier, my confirmation bible verse is Isaiah 40:3, which says, “but those who have hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” This passage motivates me to keep my faith strong in hard times, and to know that God will bring me joy and success in that hope. So when the challenges of life come my way, I try to maintain that hope, and know that God is with me.

Show expression of faith.

Closing: I'd like to end with a short prayer. Please pray with me: Dear Lord, thank you for giving me the ability to say YES to you. Help us to live out your word in everything we do, and to continually show your love to others in our daily lives. Amen.