

Resolution 1

FOURTH REASON FOR BEING

1 WHEREAS, The General Council at its August 2005 meeting in Denver, Colorado, amended the
2 Constitution, Article III. PREROGATIVES, by the addition of line e:

3 e. To respond to human need with ministries of compassion; and

4 WHEREAS, At its meeting on January 27,28, 2009, the Executive Presbytery adopted the report
5 from the Commission on Doctrinal Purity recommending an amendment of the
6 Constitution to include a fourth reason for being; and

7 WHEREAS, The purpose of Jesus’ ministry may be summarized that He came to: (1) glorify God,
8 (2) seek and save the lost, (3) make disciples, and (4) demonstrate His love and
9 compassion for the world; and

10 WHEREAS, The fourth reason for being is presently absent from our governance documents; and

11 WHEREAS, The function of the body of Christ is to follow the will of its Head; and

12 WHEREAS, Adding a fourth reason for being in our governance documents will align our mission
13 more exactly to that of our Lord while also accurately reflecting what the Assemblies
14 of God is presently engaged in; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That General Council Constitution, CONSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION, WE
16 BELIEVE, paragraph 1, page 83, which reads:

17 That God’s purpose concerning man is (1) to seek and to save that which is lost,
18 (2) to be worshiped by man, and (3) to build a body of believers in the image of
19 His Son.

20 Be amended to read:

21 That God’s purpose concerning man is (1) to seek and to save that which is lost,
22 (2) to be worshiped by man, ~~and~~ (3) to build a body of believers in the image of
23 His Son, and (4) to demonstrate His love and compassion for all the world.

24 And, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That General Council Constitution, CONSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION, WE
26 BELIEVE, paragraph 5, page 83, which reads:

27 That the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God is to be an agency of
28 God for evangelizing the world, to be a corporate body in which man may
29 worship God, and to be a channel of God’s purpose to build a body of saints
30 being perfected in the image of His Son.

1 Be amended to read:

2 That the priority reason for being of the Assemblies of God is to be an agency of
3 God for evangelizing the world, to be a corporate body in which man may
4 worship God, ~~and~~ to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints
5 being perfected in the image of His Son, and to be a people who demonstrate
6 God's love and compassion for all the world.

7 And, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That General Council Constitution, Article IV. PRINCIPLES FOR FELLOWSHIP,
9 paragraph 1, page 84, which reads:

10 The Assemblies of God shall represent, as nearly as possible, the body of Christ
11 as described in the New Testament. It shall recognize the principles inherent in
12 the Body as also inherent in this Fellowship, particularly the principles of unity,
13 cooperation, and equality. It recognizes that these principles will enable it to
14 achieve its priority reason-for-being as an agency of God for evangelizing the
15 world, as a corporate body in which man may worship God, and as a channel of
16 God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.

17 Be amended to read:

18 The Assemblies of God shall represent, as nearly as possible, the body of Christ
19 as described in the New Testament. It shall recognize the principles inherent in
20 the Body as also inherent in this Fellowship, particularly the principles of unity,
21 cooperation, and equality. It recognizes that these principles will enable it to
22 achieve its priority reason for being as an agency of God for evangelizing the
23 world, as a corporate body in which man may worship God, ~~and~~ as a channel of
24 God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son,
25 and to be a people who demonstrate God's love and compassion for all the world.

26 And, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That General Council Constitution, Article V. STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL
28 TRUTHS, Section 10. The Church and Its Mission, pages 87-88, which reads:

29 The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit,
30 with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her Great Commission. Each
31 believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the general assembly and church
32 of the firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22,23; 2:22; Hebrews
33 12:23).

1 Since God’s purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost,
2 to be worshiped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His
3 Son, the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church
4 is:

- 5 a. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew
6 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16).
- 7 b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians
8 12:13).
- 9 c. To be a channel of God’s purpose to build a body of saints being
10 perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians
11 12:28; 14:12).

12 The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this
13 reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and
14 encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience:

- 15 a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with
16 accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31;
17 Hebrews 2:3,4).
- 18 b. Adds a necessary dimension to a worshipful relationship with God (1
19 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12-14).
- 20 c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in
21 expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times
22 for the edifying of the body of Christ (Galatians 5:22-26; 1 Corinthians
23 14:12; Ephesians 4:11,12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).

24 Be amended to read:

25 The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit,
26 with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her Great Commission. Each
27 believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the general assembly and church
28 of the firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22,23; 2:22; Hebrews
29 12:23).

30 Since God’s purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost,
31 to be worshiped by man, ~~and~~ to build a body of believers in the image of His
32 Son, and to demonstrate His love and compassion for all the world, the priority
33 reason for being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- 1 a. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew
- 2 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16).
- 3 b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians
- 4 12:13).
- 5 c. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being
- 6 perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians
- 7 12:28; 14:12).
- 8 d. To be a people who demonstrate God's love and compassion for all the
- 9 world (Psalm 112:9; Galatians 2:10; 6:10; James 1:27).

10 The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this
11 reason for being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and
12 encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience:

- 13 a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with
- 14 accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31;
- 15 Hebrews 2:3,4).
- 16 b. Adds a necessary dimension to a worshipful relationship with God (1
- 17 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12-14).
- 18 c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in
- 19 expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times
- 20 for the edifying of the body of Christ and care for the poor and needy of
- 21 the world (Galatians 5:22-26; Matthew 25:37-40; Galatians 6:10; 1
- 22 Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11,12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians
- 23 1:29).

24 And, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That General Council Constitution, Article V. STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL
26 TRUTHS, Section 11. The Ministry, page 88, which reads:

27 A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our
28 Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) evangelization of the
29 world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) worship of God (John 4:23,24), and (3) building a
30 Body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11,16).

31 Be amended to read:

32 A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our
33 Lord for the fourfold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) evangelization of the

1 world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) worship of God (John 4:23,24), ~~and~~ (3) building a
2 Body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11,16), and
3 (4) meeting human need with ministries of love and compassion (Psalm 112:9;
4 Galatians 2:10; 6:10; James 1:27).

5 And, be it further

6 RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws be amended by replacing the word *threefold* with the
7 word *fourfold* and adding the statement, and to demonstrate His love and compassion
8 for all the world, where needed.

Sponsor: Executive Presbytery

Presented _____
Amended _____
Referred _____
Adopted _____
Lost _____