

Group Publishing's Nondenominational Approach

In the October 2009 article [“Is Your VBS Taking a Vacation from the Gospel?”](#) the *Baptist Bulletin* quotes Jim Knowles, representing Group Publishing: *“Group works with many Christian denominations and they use our resources for their churches because they work. We publish materials, emphasizing what denominations hold in common, not what divides.”*

The *Baptist Bulletin* goes on to say . . .

“Knowles, who was executive director of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry prior to joining Group in 1991, emphasizes a subtle distinction between the evangelical and Catholic versions. ‘Group follows a historically biblical approach to salvation, relying on key texts, such as John 3:16 and Ephesians 2:8–9,’ Knowles says. ‘This approach is consistent through all the materials published by Group.’ He also points to the company’s 80-word statement of belief, which ends with the phrase, ‘We believe people receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life through Jesus.’

“Sadly, Group’s emphasis on ‘what denominations hold in common’ could also be seen as a deliberate lack of theological precision on essential gospel truths. Because Group’s statement on salvation avoids any description of the atonement or justification, the statement can be embraced equally by Catholics, evangelicals, and mainline Protestants.”

Group Publishing's Statement of Faith from group.com:

We believe the Bible is the inspired, authoritative Word of God.

We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, in his virgin birth, in his sinless life, in his death on the cross, in his bodily resurrection, in his ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in his personal return.

We believe people receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life through Jesus.