

Statement of Faith

GOD

1. We believe in one God, eternally existing as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19; Galatians 4:4-6; Ephesians 2:6, 13-18; I John 5:1-13)
2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. (Luke 1:35; Matthew 1:20-25)
3. We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts of sin, effects the New Birth, gives guidance in life, empowers for service, and enables perseverance in faith and holiness. (John 16:7-11, 13)

CREATION AND HUMAN LIFE

4. We believe that in the beginning, God created all things in six, 24-hour days and rested on the seventh day. We believe that God made man in His own image, with a free will, a moral character, and a spiritual nature. (Genesis 1:26-27; Colossians 1:16, 17; John 1:1-13)
5. We believe that human life is sacred and begins at conception. God forms a human being in the womb as either a genetic male or a genetic female. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender. A Christian must not take part in any destruction of human life, born or unborn; therefore, we cannot endorse or allow abortive contraceptives. (Isaiah 44:24; Psalm 139:15; Jeremiah 1:5; Luke 1:44; Luke 18:20; Romans 1:26-29, Matthew 19:4)

SCRIPTURE

6. We believe that the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God, revealing God and His will, both in the Old and New Testaments. (Luke 1:70; II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20, 21)

SIN AND SALVATION

7. We believe that man, through unbelief and disobedience, fell into sin bringing depravity and death upon the human race; that man as a sinner is self-centered and self-willed, unable to redeem himself. (Romans 3:10-18, 23, 5:12)
8. We believe that there is one Mediator between God and man, the Man Christ Jesus, Who shed His blood and died on Calvary to redeem us from sin, was resurrected from the dead, ascended to heaven, and is sitting at the right hand of the Father interceding for us. (John 3:16; Hebrews 9:12-14, 10:12; Colossians 1:20-22)
9. We believe that salvation is by grace through faith in Christ—a free gift bestowed by God on all who believe in Christ, repent of their sins, are born again, and walk in newness of life. (Ephesians 2:8, 9; John 3:3, 5; Romans 6:1-7, 10:9,10)
10. We believe that those who repent and believe should be baptized with water as a symbol of: new birth, baptism of the Spirit, cleansing from sin, commitment to Christ, and separation from evil. (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38, 10:44-48; I Peter 3:21)

THE CHURCH

11. We believe that the church is the body of Christ, and that all those who are born again and walk in obedience to the Word of God, constitute the true church of which Christ is the Head. (Ephesians 1:22, 23; Colossians 1:18; I John 1:7; I Timothy 3:15)
12. We believe that God provides the church with the necessary leadership, such as bishops, ministers, evangelists, and deacons, to shepherd the flock, teach the Word, administer the ordinances, and lead the church in the exercise of discipline. (Ephesians 4:11-16)
13. We believe that Christ commissioned the church to: evangelize the world, make disciples of all men and teach them to follow Him in a Biblical walk of life, and to minister to the needs of all people. (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19, 20; I John 3:17)

14. We believe that the church and state are ordained of God as separate entities in His divine plan, and that believers should honor rulers and be subject to their authority and pray for them. (Romans 13:1-7; I Peter 2:13-17)
15. We believe that the unrepentant, fallen brother or sister shall be excommunicated from the body of Christ in the spirit of love, and shall be received back into fellowship upon repentance and amendment of life. (I Corinthians 5:1-13; II Corinthians 6:14)
16. We believe that the church should observe the communion of the Lord's Supper as a symbol of His broken body and shed blood, in a common union of believers with Christ and one another. (I Corinthians 10:16-21, 11:23-26)
17. We believe that Christ taught both by example and by commandment that feet-washing is a symbol of brotherhood, service, and humility, and should be observed literally. (John 13:3-17)
18. We believe that the holy kiss should be practiced as a symbol of Christian love among the believers, brother with brother, and sister with sister. (Romans 16:16; I Pet. 5:14)

MARRIAGE

19. We believe that marriage is designed by God to be the union of one naturally-born man and one naturally-born woman for life. Therefore, any sexual relationship outside this marriage is sin. Furthermore, adultery, fornication, homosexuality, pornography, lesbianism, and any other sexual involvement is condemned by God. (Hebrews 13:4; Mark 10:6-9; Romans 1:24-28; Matthew 5:27-28; I Corinthians 6:9, 10)

CHRISTIAN LIVING

20. We believe that God has established unique roles of authority for man and woman. Therefore, a man's head is to be uncovered in praying and prophesying, and the woman's head is to be veiled, and her hair uncut, signifying their acceptance of God's order. (I Corinthians 11:1-16)
21. We believe that anointing with oil, accompanied by the prayer of faith, is honored by God in the restoration of physical health, in accordance to His will. (James 5:14, 15)
22. We believe that the personal appearance and lifestyle of Christian men and women should be modest, free from worldly fashion and adornment, maintaining simplicity in all areas of life, living as strangers and pilgrims in this world, seeking a city not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. (Romans 12:1, 2; James 4:4; I John 2:15-17)
23. We believe that all human beings bear the image of their Creator, God, and must be treated with dignity and respect, showing the love of Jesus in a way that draws all men to God. (Galatians 5:14; I John 4:7)
24. We believe that Christians should live a nonresistant life style, without any acts of retaliation, demonstrating the love of Christ in our daily walk. (Matthew 5:39-46; John 18:36; Romans 12:19-21)

ETERNITY

25. We believe in the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, the blessed hope of believers, and that upon His return He will resurrect the righteous to eternal bliss in heaven, and the unrighteous to eternal damnation in hell. He will sit on the throne of His glory, judging all nations in the last day. (I Thessalonians 4:16, 17; Matthew 25:31-46)

