



# STATEMENT OF FAITH

## 1. THE BIBLE

The Bible is the Word of God – inspired, infallible, and inerrant. It includes everything we need to know to be saved and to walk in relationship with God.

## 2. GOD

We believe that God is a personal being of absolute knowledge, power, and goodness, eternally existent in three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## 3. JESUS CHRIST

We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His miracles, and in His vicarious death. We believe in His atonement for the whole human race. Jesus Christ is very God and very man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

## 4. THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the holy Trinity. He is God. He is a person. He is distinct from the Father and Son. The Holy Spirit has been sent to indwell, guide, teach, and empower the believer, and to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

## 5. MAN

Man is created in the image and likeness of God, giving him a unique place amongst God's creation. However, through Adam's willful disobedience he brought upon himself both physical and spiritual death, passing on inherited depravity to all his offspring.

## 6. SALVATION

We believe that man's return to God is only possible through the enabling of the Holy Spirit. We believe that both repentance and faith are conditions for obtaining the new birth. When a sinner is forgiven, he is justified, sanctified, adopted into God's family, and sealed with the Holy Spirit.

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## **7. ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION**

Entire sanctification is a divine work of grace subsequent to regeneration whereby God cleanses the believer's heart from inherited depravity and fills him with the Holy Spirit. This cleansing enables the believer to love God completely and to love his neighbor as himself, unhindered by self-centeredness. Entire sanctification also empowers a believer to serve God more effectively.

## **8. HOLINESS**

We believe that Christians can only be holy when we are connected to the One true source of holiness, God Himself. As holy Christians, we are to live a life of separation from everything sinful, as well as from anything common or ordinary that is so willed by God. We separate from these things in order to solely belong to God as His possession. Holiness also means that we as Christians share in God's nature. We become Christlike.

## **9. HOLY LIVING**

We believe the Bible expressly calls the Christian to a life of righteousness and good works and to a separation from such practices, pleasures, pursuits, and plans as will harm the body as the temple of the Holy Spirit, weaken the mind, hinder testimony for Christ, and hurt the church.

We believe that non-use of tobacco and alcoholic beverages; restraint or abstinence from certain forms of entertainment; modesty of dress and conduct; neatness and simplicity of attire; absence of unnecessary adornment; honesty in business practices; refraining from improper conversation; observation of Biblical principles of gender distinction; proper observance of the Lord's Day; and chaste and prudent conduct in all the social and moral areas of life are reasonable and consistent applications of the Bible's teaching of separation and godly living and are based upon scriptural principles.

## **10. THE CHURCH**

The Church is established by Jesus to be one, worldwide, holy, and faithful to the apostles' doctrine. The church is where believers are at home because God is our Father, and His people are our family.

## **11. END TIMES**

The return of Jesus is the blessed hope that all believers await. Every person will be raised from the dead to face judgment for their works, then be granted either eternal reward in heaven, or eternal punishment in hell. We believe in the conscious existence of the dead, the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the everlasting life of the saved, and the everlasting punishment of the wicked.

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