

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Although our approach is modern, what we believe is tried and true. Our methods may change, but these are the foundational beliefs we'll always hold on to as a church.

ABOUT GOD

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe and as a Father, He desires a joyful and personal relationship with His creation. He has eternally existed in three persons - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God. (Genesis 1:1, Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

ABOUT MAN

Man is made in the spiritual image of God, to be like him in character. He is the supreme object of God's creation. Although man has tremendous potential for good, he is marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin." This attitude separates man from God. (Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1, 2)

ABOUT ETERNITY

Man was created to exist forever. He will either exist eternally separated from God by sin or in union with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and hell are places of eternal existence. (John 3:16; 1 John 2:25; 1 John 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:15; Matthew 25:31-46)

ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is the co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all men by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to heaven's glory and will return again to earth to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. (Matthew 1:22, 23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5, 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14, 15; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Romans 1:3, 4; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14, 15; Titus 2:13)

ABOUT SALVATION

Salvation is a gift from God to man. Man can never make up for his sin by self-improvement or good works - only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can man be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith. (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8, 9; John 14:6; 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26; Romans 5:1)

ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son as God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. We believe in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the full manifestation of His fruit and gifts. (2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13, John 14:16-17; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:1; Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 2:4, 8:8; 1 Corinthians 12:1)

ABOUT THE BIBLE

The Bible is God's word to all men. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it

is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error. It reveals the amazing plan of God in redeeming mankind from Genesis to Revelation. (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105, 160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5)

ABOUT WATER BAPTISM

Baptism by immersion symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus and is your public declaration that you have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. Baptism does not save you but shows the world that you have already been saved. And while baptism is not required for salvation, it is a biblical command and demonstrates your love and obedience to Christ. (Colossians 2:12; Acts 2:41; Ephesians 2:8-9; Matthew 28:19-20)

ABOUT COMMUNION

Communion, or the Lord's Supper, is a command given to all believers by Jesus Christ to remember his sacrifice for us and to symbolize the new covenant. The elements of bread and wine or juice are symbols of Christ's broken body and shed blood. Communion is not a means of salvation. Rather, it is a testament of a believer's faith in the atoning work of the cross. (Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29)

ABOUT THE SANCTIFICATION PROCESS

By the power of the Holy Spirit, we strive to obey the command, *"You must be holy because I am holy."* Sanctification is the will of God for all believers and should be earnestly pursued by walking in obedience to God's Word. (Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15-16; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 1 John 2:6)

ABOUT THE CHURCH

The church is the holy Body of Christ. Each believer is an integral part of the church, and their names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. (1 Thessalonians 2:4) The church has been called by God for a two-fold purpose: (1) The evangelization of the world, and (2) The encouragement, fellowship and building up of the Body of Christ. (Mark 15:16,20; Ephesians 4:11-13)

ABOUT HEALING

Deliverance from sickness is provided for by the work of Christ and is available for all believers. (Isaiah 53:4, 5; Matthew 8:16, 17; Mark 16:18; John 5:14)

ABOUT GENDER, RACE OR AGE

We believe that the Spirit of God uses both male and female, young and old and people from all races, walks of life and denominational backgrounds to hold positions of ministry and to minister to the body of Christ. (Galatians 3:28)

ABOUT SEXUALITY

We honor and recognize the intimate relationship between Christ and His church and believe it is to be reflected in the sexual relationship between a husband and wife (specifically a man and a woman) as ordained by God in the beginning. (Genesis 1:27; Ephesians 5:25-27)