



# STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

01

## The Bible

The Bible (Old and New Testament) is the inspired Word of God. Therefore we submit our reason and will to the authority of Scripture. The Bible is our ultimate source for truth. It reveals the divine principles and purposes that guide every genuine Christian community; and it is the basis for teaching, correction and training in righteousness. The revelation of Jesus Christ and His church in the New Testament is the inspired fulfillment and final interpretation of all God revealed to Israel in the Old Testament. (Matthew 4:4; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:12; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Peter 1:23-25; 2 Peter 1:19-21; 3:2; Isaiah 55:8-11)

02

## God

There is one eternal, holy God, infinite, personal and knowable, who has revealed Himself in the Trinity (tri-unity) of three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit—each of Whom possesses all the attributes of deity. Our God is worthy of our complete trust, worship and obedience. (Genesis 1:1-2, 26; John 1:1-4; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Hebrews 1:1-2; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 2:18, 22; Romans 8 portrays the interwoven work of the Trinity)

03

## Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, fully human and fully divine, was born of a virgin and was sinless in nature and life. He died on the Cross bearing the penalty for our sins, then rose victorious over death from the grave. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, plus nothing, is the Gospel: the one, all-sufficient basis of human salvation. Eternal life is God's gift of grace for all who trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. (Romans 6:23; 4:25-5:1; 3:20-26; Matthew 1:21-23; John 3:16-18, 36; 6:40; Isaiah 53:4-12; 2 Corinthians 5:14-21; 15:1-4; Ephesians 2:4-8; 2 Timothy 1:8-10; Hebrews 9:26-28; 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18; 1 John 5:10-13; Revelation 1:5-6)

# 04

## The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin and the Savior. He then unites the believer to the Body to Christ [His church], making real and effective all that Christ promised in the believer's life. The power of the indwelling Holy Spirit enables us to obey and share the Lord Jesus Christ; calling us to purity, faithfulness and integrity in every area of our lives. The Holy Spirit also imparts gifts to every believer for works of ministry, but no one spiritual gift is the necessary evidence of salvation or of being filled with the Holy Spirit. (John 14:15-18; 16:7-15; Ephesians 1:13-14; 2:18, 22; 4:30; Romans 8:5-16; Acts 1:4-8; 2:38-39; Luke 11:13; Zechariah 4:6; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11)

# 05

## Discipleship

Full devotion to Jesus as Lord is our joyful response to God's gift of salvation. Genuine discipleship to Christ flows from our security in Christ. It is the Spirit-led fruit of receiving Christ's salvation—never the root of salvation. Scripture teaches that our fruit (character and actions) is judged only to reveal the true root of our life (self or the Savior).

The highest evidence of a life rooted in Christ is self-sacrificing love. (Matthew 7:16-24; 2 Corinthians 5:14-17; Ephesians 2:8-10; John 13:34-35; Romans 8:3-4; Galatians 5:16-25; Titus 2:11-14 and 3:4-8; Jude 3-4, 17-19; Revelation 22:12-17)

# 06

## Body of Christ

We are a part of the universal Body of Christ—all those who trust Jesus as Lord and Savior. Every congregation gathered around the risen Lord and empowered by His Spirit for mutual growth, encouragement, evangelism, service and worship is a local expression of Christ's universal church. In obedience to Christ we express our faith in Him through the signs of the New Covenant: Baptism by immersion in water and celebration of the Lord's Supper. (Matthew 16:16-19; Ephesians 3:10-12; 4:4-6, 15-16; Colossians 1:18-24; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelation 2-3; Matthew 26: 26-29; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 6:3-11)

# 07

## Second Coming

The Kingdom of God, ushered in by Christ at His first Advent, will be fully realized (visibly and physically) at His Second Coming. Christ will appear in glory to end human suffering, to resurrect the dead, to receive all those who are His and to destroy those who refuse His salvation. (Hebrews 9:26-28; Matthew 13:39-43; 24:27-31; 25:31-34; John 5:24-29; 6:39-40; 1 Corinthians 15:51-58; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10; 2 Peter 2:6)