

- **GOD'S WORD**

We believe the Bible (Old and New Testaments) to be verbally inspired by God and inerrant in the original writings. God's Word is the only infallible and authoritative rule of faith and practice (II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:19-21).

- **GOD**

We believe that there is only one true, living, sovereign, eternally existent God. He exists in three co-equal persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that the triune God is the creator and sustainer of all things. He is the source of all truth and is alone worthy of our worship (Genesis 1:1, 26, 31; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Isaiah 45:5).

- **JESUS CHRIST**

We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of the Father and His personal return to power and glory (John 1:1-3, 14; Matthew 1:18-23; I Corinthians 15:1-8; Philippians 2:5-9; Colossians 1:14-20).

- **HOLY SPIRIT**

We believe that the Holy Spirit is God, co-equal and co-existent with the Father and the Son. He is the chief convicter of sin, the chief agent of regeneration and sanctification. The Holy Spirit lives within every believer and empowers every believer to live a godly life (John 14:15-17; John 16:7-10; I Corinthians 6:19-20; Romans 8:9,11).

- **SIN**

We believe that Adam, the first man, sinned by disobedience. This act resulted in the fall of all mankind; therefore, all people have sinned and lost their ability to live for the glory of God. Every person's sin incurs both physical and spiritual death until there is forgiveness and salvation by the grace of God (Genesis 3:1-24; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:10-23; Romans 6:23).

- **SALVATION**

We believe the salvation of lost and sinful people is a free gift of God's grace apart from human works, based solely upon Christ's vicarious and atoning death, affected by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, and received only through faith in the person and finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross and His resurrection from death (Ephesians 2:8-10; II Corinthians 5:21; Romans 3:21-28; Titus 3:5-7).

- **THE CHURCH**

We believe that the church is the body of Christ and the family of God. It is made up of saved and baptized believers who regularly join together for worship, fellowship and ministry (I Corinthians 12:12-14, 26-27; Hebrews 10:25; Matthew 3:13-16).

- **EVANGELISM**

We believe that it is the responsibility and privilege of every Christian to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and to become actively involved in discipling new believers (Matthew 18: 18-20; Acts 1:8; II Corinthians 5:18-20).

- **BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life and the resurrection to walk in newness of life to walk in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is a prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming (Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 21; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12).

10. THE FAMILY

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents. ([Deuteronomy 6:4-9](#); [Joshua 24:15](#); [Psalm 78:1-8](#); [127](#); [128](#); [139:13-16](#); [Romans 1:18-32](#); [1 Corinthians 7:1-16](#); [Ephesians 5:21-33](#); [6:1-4](#); [Colossians 3:18-21](#); [1 Timothy 5:8,14](#); [2 Timothy 1:3-5](#); [Titus 2:3-5](#); [Hebrews 13:4](#); [1 Peter 3:1-7](#))