

“Our Core Beliefs”



We affirm these core beliefs as children of God and followers of Jesus Christ:

- God is the creator of the universe and every living creature. Man was created in God's own image and through scripture it has been made clear to us that God desires a relationship with every man and woman. Our total trust and faith will rest in Him as our Father in Heaven. (Genesis 1-2)
 - Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He was born of a virgin, ministered in this world, performed miracles and fulfilled the promise of a Savior to God's people. Jesus was crucified, then resurrected from the dead, ascended into Heaven and will return to earth one day to claim His followers (Christians) for eternity. (John 1; Luke 1-2, 22-24; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11)
 - The Holy Spirit, as promised by Jesus, indwells every Christian as a guide and comforter for daily living in accordance with God's will. (John 14:15-30; John 16:5-16)
 - The Bible is God's word, handed down to us by writers inspired by the Holy Spirit. It is our supreme source for learning to live holy and righteous lives. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Psalm 119:9-16)
 - Followers of Jesus Christ are taught in scripture that when they have heard the story of Christ's life, death and resurrection they are to confess to others their belief that "Jesus is the Son of God." Followers of Christ are also taught in scripture to be buried with Christ in baptism (by immersion in water) for the forgiveness of their sins and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Colossians 2:9-12; Galatians 3:26, 27)
 - Christians have been commanded to love God and love one another. Jesus said this is "the greatest commandment and the second greatest commandment." Our love for one another is based on our love for Him. And it is our love for one another that makes it known to others that we are disciples of Christ. This love and unity among fellow believers is the most intense, over-arching prayer Jesus offers in scripture for his followers. (Mark 12:28-31; John 13:34-35; John 17:20-23)
 - Christians are called on as followers of Jesus Christ to repent of their sins and turn away from unholy practices. Scripture teaches that we will all sin and fall short of the glory of God, but because of His love and mercy for His children, we will receive undeserved forgiveness for our transgressions because of His grace. (Acts 2:36-41; Romans 3:22-24)
 - Christians are called on as followers of Jesus Christ to carry on His mission on earth to minister to those who are sick, suffering and oppressed. (Matthew 25:31-46)
 - Christians are called on as followers of Jesus Christ to share the message of Jesus' life, death and resurrection with those who have not been taught about Him. We are called on by Christ to carry out this mission through evangelistic efforts and by living as "salt and light" to the world. (Matthew 28:16-20)
 - Christians are called on as followers of Jesus Christ ("the church") to worship God together. They have also been called on by Jesus Christ to celebrate a memorial feast in His honor (communion), remembering his life, death and resurrection until his return to earth. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)
- *In all of these essential core beliefs we have unity.* ("There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of us all." / Ephesians 4:4-6)