



## Journeying With Jesus Statement of Faith

### THE SCRIPTURES

We believe in the divine inspiration and supreme authority of the sixty-six books of the Bible. The Bible alone is verbally inspired and completely inerrant in the original manuscripts and is sufficient for all matters of faith and conduct. We believe that all the Scriptures were designed for our practical instruction. Every believer has the ability to interpret the Scriptures under guidance of the Holy Spirit when interpreted in its normal, historical, grammatical, and contextual sense. *Deuteronomy 4:2; Psalm 19:7; 119:160; Proverbs 30:6; John 16:6-13; John 17:17; I Corinthians 2:12-14; II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:3-4, 20-21; Revelation 22:18-19.*

### THE TRINITY

We believe that God eternally exists in three Persons – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – and that these three are one God, having precisely the same nature, attributes, perfections, and worthy of precisely the same homage, confidence, and obedience. Each member of the Triune Godhead is jointly involved in the plan of redemption for lost and sinful mankind. *Deuteronomy 6:4; 33:27a; Psalm 90:1-2; Matthew 3:16-17; 28:19-20; John 14:16-18; II Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 4:4-6; Hebrews 1:8-12; 7:24-25; 9:14; I Peter 1:1-2.*

### GOD THE FATHER

We believe that God the Father is spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in His being, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth. We believe that He is the Creator of all that is, that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He saves from sin and spiritual death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ and He hears and answers their prayers. *Matthew 6:8-15; 7:11; 23:9; John 4:24; 14:6-13; Galatians 4:6; I John 5:13-15.*

### JESUS CHRIST

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is preexistent and complete deity, Creator of all, begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He is both fully God and fully man. In the flesh, He lived a sinless life and died on the cross as a substitutionary sacrifice for the sins of mankind. We believe in the bodily resurrection of our Lord, His ascension into Heaven, and His presence there as our Intercessor. He is the Savior and the Head of the church. *Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7; Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-4, 14; 10:30; 20:30-31; Romans 1:4; 3:22-28; 4:25; 8:11, 34; I Corinthians 15:1-8; II Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:15-17; Hebrews 4:14-15; 8:1; 9:28; I John 2:1.*

### THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person, that He is God, that He possesses all the divine attributes, that He is the Interpreter of the infallible Word of God, that He baptizes and indwells all believers at the moment of their salvation, that He empowers believers to live victoriously and gifts them for ministry, that He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and that it is the responsibility of every believer to be filled with (i.e. put himself under control of) the Holy Spirit. He is our Comforter, Counselor, and Revealer of Jesus Christ. *John 14:16-17, 26; 16:7-15; Acts 1:8; 4:31; 5:3-4; Romans 8:9-13; I Corinthians 2:9-16; 3:16; 12:13; II Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 5:16, 22-23; Ephesians 3:16; 4:30; 5:18; I John 2:18-27.*

### MAN

We believe that man was created in the image of God. Because of Adam's sin, mankind incurred both physical and spiritual death. We believe that all human beings are sinners and separated from God because of their inherent sin nature, which makes each individual prone to commit sinful acts. We believe that man is unable to save himself. We believe in eternal life for the believer and eternal punishment for the unbeliever. *Genesis 1:26-27; 3:1-19; Proverbs 20:9; Isaiah 64:6; John 5:28-29; 6:40; Romans 1:18; 3:9-12, 23; 5:12-19; 6:23; I Corinthians 15:51-52; Ephesians 2:1-3:12; Titus 3:5; Hebrews 9:27; II Peter 3:7; Revelation 20:11-15.*

## SALVATION

We believe that Jesus Christ died as a substitutionary sacrifice for our sins and that salvation is a gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that no works, such as water baptism, prayer, or faithful service, are to be added to believing as a condition of salvation. Jesus Christ is the only answer for mankind's helpless spiritual condition. *Isaiah 53:2-12; John 3:16; 10:17-18; 14:6; Acts 4:12; 13:38-39; Romans 5:6, 8; II Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-9; I Timothy 2:5-6; Hebrews 10:10-14; I Peter 1:18-19; 3:18; I John 4:10.*

## ASSURANCE AND SECURITY OF SALVATION

We believe that a believer can be certain of his salvation, which comes as a free gift of God's grace. Our assurance of salvation is based on God's promises not on man's works. Good works are a loving response to God for our salvation. They are prepared by God for us so that we should walk in them. *John 3:36; 5:24; 6:39-40; 10:28-29; 17:24; Romans 5:1; 8:1, 38-39; Ephesians 1:13-14; 2:8-10; 4:30; I Thessalonians 5:8-9; II Timothy 1:12; 4:18; Hebrews 7:25; Jude 1:24; I John 5:13.*

## THE CHURCH

We believe that the Church is a spiritual organism made up of all persons who have, through saving faith in Jesus Christ, been regenerated by the Holy Spirit. We also believe that local churches are ordained of God and organized according to the Scriptures as visible expressions of the Body of Christ in a community, and that it is His will that all who profess belief in Christ be actively involved in a local assembly of believers. We believe that Christ mandated the local church to make disciples throughout the world and to carry out spiritual discipline and restoration within the local fellowship. *Matthew 16:18; 18:15-20; 28:18-20; Acts 2:42-47; I Corinthians 1:10 (and chapters 12-13); Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:11-16; 5:21, 25-32.*

## THE ORDINANCES

We believe in the symbolic ordinance of believer's baptism by immersion in obedience to the command of Christ. We believe in the ordinance of the Lord's Supper in remembrance of His atoning death and in anticipation of His coming again. All believers and only believers should share in it. The ordinances were instituted by Jesus Christ for the church and are a scriptural means of testimony to God's grace until His return. *Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; 8:38-39; I Corinthians 11:20-34.*

## THE CHRISTIAN'S SERVICE

We believe that every Christian is responsible for loving God and loving his neighbor in the power of the Holy Spirit. It is each believer's responsibility to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord and to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God. Every believer is to preserve the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, conducting himself within the body with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing forbearance to one another in love. We believe that every Christian has received at least one spiritual gift at the point of salvation by the will and distribution of the Holy Spirit. A spiritual gift is a divine enablement for ministry for the building up of the Body of Christ. We believe that the local church is spiritually weak or strong in proportion to how faithfully each of its members demonstrates his love for God, other believers, and the lost, and exercises his gift or gifts. We believe that all believers will appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ to receive rewards for faithful service. *Matthew 16:27; 22:37-39; Romans 12:4-8; I Corinthians 3:10-15; 12:4-31; II Corinthians 5:10; Ephesians 4:1-13; Colossians 1:10-11; 3:23-24; I Peter 4:10.*

## THE FUTURE

We believe that Christ's return for His church can happen at any time and that this "blessed hope" has vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer. We believe that His second coming will be personal, visible, and glorious. We believe He will raise the dead and bring salvation and judgment to completion. *Isaiah 11:1-12; Acts 1:11; I Corinthians 15:42-55; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; I John 3:2-3; Revelation 19:11-21; 20:1-4.*