

Statement of Faith

All one in Christ Jesus | CBF 2019



The Godhead

- Deut 6:4
- Isaiah 45:22
- John 14:26
- I Tim 3:16

We believe the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are each truly and wholly God.

We believe the Father is in the Son and the Son is in the Father.

We believe the Holy Spirit is a personality and not just a force.

The Bible makes it clear they are three different yet wonderful revelations of the one true and living God.

God

- Genesis 1:26, 27
- Matthew 6:9
- Matthew 7:11
- Romans 8:15-17
- I Peter 1:17

We believe in God the Father as the creator of all that exists. Through the Son He made man in His image. By intention He relates to man as Father, thereby declaring His goodwill towards man. In love he both seeks and receives repentant sinners.

Jesus

- Isaiah 7:14, 42:1-9
- Matthew 1:23; 24:28-31
- John 14:6
- I Corinthians 15
- Galatians 1:3, 4
- I Thess 4:14-18
- Hebrews 7:25-27; 13:8
- I Peter 2:21-25
- Romans 5:12

We believe in Jesus Christ the only begotten Son of God. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary; truly God and truly man. Jesus died on the cross and was buried, He rose bodily from the dead and ascended into Heaven. Jesus is the only sacrifice for both sin that entered through Adam and the transgressions of men and to reconcile us to God. He intercedes for us at the Father's right hand until He returns to judge all men.

Holy Spirit

- Job 33:4
- John 4:24
- II Corinthians 3:17
- Galatians 4:6

Extra References

- Matt 28:19, John 3:2-6
- John 4:29, 14:26
- Acts 13:2
- Rom 5:5; 8:9-17, 8:26-28, 12:3-13
- I Cor 12: II Cor 3:17, 18
- Galatians 4:6, 5:16-25
- Ephesians 1:13, 14; 3:2-6

We believe in the Holy Spirit who is the same essential nature as the Father and the Son; truly and eternally God. The Holy Spirit reveals Jesus Christ to man, convicts of sin, unites believers, gives an assurance of salvation and brings us into fellowship with the Father and the Son. He transforms us morally and He dispenses gifts to the Church. He intercedes on our behalf and teaches us to pray. He calls us to service.

The Church

- John 1:2, Acts 2:41-47
- Romans 8:15
- Eph 1:22, 23; 2:19-22
- John 5:22-33
- Colossians 1:18, 24
- I Peter 1:1, 2:9

We believe that the Christian Church is the entire body of believers, both the living and the dead in Jesus Christ, who is the founder and only head of the Church.

- Deut 6:5, Matt 5:13-16
- Luke 10:29, John 6:24
- Rom 12:1,2, Eph 5:8-10
- I Peter 2:9
- Matt 28:19

We believe the purposes of the Church are:

(i) to worship, glorify and love God and reflect Him to the world.

- Matt 18:15-20
- I Cor 5:4-13
- Gal 2:11 Eph 4:21-24
- Col 3:16, I Tim 5:20
- Titus 3:10, Heb 10:23-25
- I John 1:3,4

(ii) to take the Gospel into the world and to make disciples of all nations.

(iii) to nurture, teach and disciple the body of Christ.

- Romans 8:9
- Ephesians 2:19-22
- I John 1:6, 7

We are one Fellowship within the Body of Christ and membership is based on those who have received the Lord Jesus and who meet in the local gathering

The Bible

- Ezekiel 3:3
- Psalm 19:7
- II Timothy 3:16, 17
- II Peter 1:20, 21

We believe the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments constitute the Holy Scriptures. They are the inspired and infallibly written Word of God fully inerrant in their original manuscripts and superior to all human authority. They have been transmitted to the present without corruption of any essential doctrine.

We believe that they contain all things necessary to salvation.

Salvation

- Romans 3:23, 5:12

We believe sin entered the world through one man and death through sin. In this way death came to all men for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

- Romans 6:23
- Isaiah 53:
- John 3:16
- Acts 2:38
- Ephesians 1:7, 8
- I John 1:7-9, 4:10

We believe sin separates us from God.

We believe that in Jesus we are redeemed (bought back) through His blood, sacrificially shed on the cross for the forgiveness of sin.

- Ephesians 2:8,9
- Ephesians 1:11
- James 2:14, 26

We believe that in accordance with the riches of God's grace and through faith alone in Christ, each person's relationship with God is restored and by virtue of His resurrection from the dead, our eternal life is secured.

- Ephesians 2:8, 9

We believe that salvation cannot be earned in any way by our good works or effort.

- II Peter 3:9
- Matthew 4:17
- Luke 15:7
- Acts 2:38,39, 3:19

We believe repentance to be both a part of the salvation event and the believers ongoing life and growth in the Lord.

- Matthew 24:31-46
- Revelation 20:11-15

We believe that the Scriptures reveal God as the judge of all mankind. His administration of justice will culminate in the final meeting of mankind before His throne, where records will be examined and rewards and punishments administered. Believers are rewarded with eternal life with God. Those who have not availed themselves of Christ's sacrifice will be eternally separated from God.

- John 3:15,16; 14:1-3
- Ephesians 1:11, 12

Ministries

- Acts 6:1-7
- Acts 13:1-3
- I Corinthians 12
- I Corinthians 14:12

Ministry in the Fellowship is by gifts given to each individual by the Holy Spirit for the common good of the Body of Christ: the gifts being confirmed by the Holy Spirit for the edification of the Body.

Authority in the Local Assembly

- Acts 14:23; 20:17, 28
- I Tim 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9
- Heb13:7, 17, I Peter 5:1-4

With Christ as the only head of the Church, we believe a plurality of Elders have charge and authority to oversee the local assembly.

Baptism

- Matthew 28:18-20
- Acts 10:48
- Romans 6:3-4
- Ephesians 4:4-6
- Luke 2:22

We believe in the water baptism of believers, commanded by Christ as a sign of obedience and an outward expression of commitment and faith. There is only one believer baptism.

NOTE: We encourage parents to dedicate their children to the Lord. This is not baptism.

The Lord's Supper

- Matthew 26:26-29
- Mark 14:22-24
- Luke 22:13-20
- I Corinthians 11:23-24
- I Corinthians 10:15-17

As instituted by Jesus Himself, we celebrate the Lord's Supper. When we share it we are proclaiming Jesus' death until He comes. We break one loaf representing Jesus' body having been broken for us. We share wine from the cup to remember His blood shed for us which is a symbol of the new covenant between God and man.

The Christian Life

Holy Living

- Matt 5:43-48, Rom 12:1, 2
- II Cor 7:1, 3:10-12
- Ephesians 1:4, 4:22-24
- Col 1:22, I Thess 3:12, 13
- I Tim 1:3-11, II Cor 6:14
- Philippians 2:1-4
- Hebrews 10:25
- I John 1:3-7, Matthew 18:20

We believe God has called Christians to strive for holiness as we turn from worldliness and endeavour to live in Christ-like love.

Bible Reading and Prayer

- Joshua 1:8
- Luke 11:1-4, 18:1
- John 14:18-21
- Romans 8:26-27
- I Corinthians 7:24
- Ephesians 6:18
- I Thessalonians 5:17
- Hebrews 4:12, 7:25
- II Timothy 3:16, 17
- Jude 20

We believe it is essential for Christians to spend time with God through reading His Word and prayer. As we spend time with Him we will become more like Him.

Witness

- Matthew 28:18-20
- Acts 5:32
- II Corinthians 5:20
- II Timothy 4:2
- I Peter 3:15
- I John 4:14-15

We believe God has called us to witness, by our words and our actions, to the transforming power of God's love through Christ.

Fellowship

- Malachi 3:16
- II Corinthians 6:14
- Philippians 2:14
- Hebrews 10:25
- I John 1:3-7
- Matthew 18:20

The Bible instructs Christians to be in the habit of meeting together in fellowship to encourage and strengthen each other, recognising God is present.

Order of Responsibility

- I Corinthians 7
- I Corinthians 11:3-16
- Ephesians 5:22
- Ephesians 6:4

We believe in God's ordained order for the family.

God > Christ > Husband > Wife > Children

This Statement of Faith was constructed over a two year period, beginning in October 1988.

Participants were:

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A revision of the Salvation section was undertaken in 2019.

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