



~Affirmation of Our Faith~

The Bible

The Bible is God's Word. It contains truth without any mixture of error. We accept its authority over every area of our lives. Through it we come to know God as revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. There are some things in the Bible that we may not fully understand, but, as we study, we can always learn more.

God

God is the creator of all things. He is perfect, eternal, self-existent, all knowing, all powerful and present everywhere. He is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He has revealed Himself finally through Jesus, the Messiah, who was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died on the cross as the full payment for the sins of all who believe, rose from the dead, and is coming again in glory.

Man

Man was created by God for the purpose of serving Him and enjoying fellowship with Him forever. Given the freedom to choose good or evil, our first parents, Adam and Eve, chose evil with the result that suffering and death have passed to every generation in history. All of us demonstrate the effects of this sin in that from our earliest opportunity, each of us chooses to disobey God. The consequence is guilt and eternal death.

Salvation

Despite our sin, God loved us so much that He gave His only Son to provide a sacrifice that would remove the guilt of everyone who trusts in Jesus. Salvation is only available through God's grace (undeserved favor) and is received by those who trust Jesus as their Savior and Lord. Salvation is more than being forgiven. It means a new life in which God comes to live in us and change us by His power from the inside out.

The Church

When a person is led by God's Spirit to trust in Jesus and receives Him as Lord and Savior, that individual becomes part of a family that is worldwide and will live forever. This family of believers is the Church. Members of the Church are commanded to meet together and worship God, study His Word and strengthen one another. We are also commanded to take the good news of God's love to people all over the world until everyone has had the opportunity to trust Jesus. Someday people everywhere will have heard the good news, and Jesus will return to earth to take all of His family home to be with Him forever.

The Ordinances

The Lord Jesus gave two ordinances for the church to observe until He returns: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism is a picture of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus and of our union with Him. When a person is baptized in the name of Jesus, he outwardly demonstrates an inner reality—that he has died to sin and now lives a new life of obedience to God, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Baptism is a one-time act of obedience for disciples who have made a believable profession of faith in Jesus. It is appropriately administered by immersion. The Lord's Supper reminds us of Jesus' sacrifice for us on the cross. It is both a celebration of His love for us and a reminder of our continual need for Him. We celebrate it corporately rather than individually because it also reminds us that together we are the Body of Christ. The Lord's Supper is only for baptized believers in Jesus who have first examined themselves and have repented of any known sin.