

Bethany Baptist Church | Statement of Faith

THE WORD OF GOD:

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and that it is the supreme authority in all matters.

THE TRINITY:

We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit: that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence and redemption.

GOD THE FATHER:

We believe in God the Father, an infinite and personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and eternal death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

JESUS CHRIST:

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death for the sins of men, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal, visible return to earth.

HOLY SPIRIT:

We believe in the Holy Spirit whose purpose is to exalt Jesus Christ by convicting the world of sin, righteousness and judgment; regenerating, sanctifying and empowering all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ. He is an abiding comforter, teacher, and guide who fills believers and supplies gifts as He determines.

REGENERATION:

We believe that every human being is responsible only to God in all matters of faith. We believe that all men are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that those who do repent of their sin and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit. We believe they become a new creation in Jesus Christ.

THE BELIEVER:

We believe that a Christian should live for the glory of God and the well-being of his fellowman; that his conduct should be blameless before the world; that he should be a faithful steward of his possessions; and that he should seek to realize for himself and others the full stature of maturity in Christ Jesus. Furthermore, we believe that he is to live his life separated from the world spiritually and separated unto Christ in perfect assurance and in the power of the living Christ. We believe in the sainthood of the believer and the progressive sanctification of that believer toward Christ likeness.

THE CHURCH:

We believe in the universal church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and regenerated persons are members. We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized by immersion on a credible profession of faith, and associated for worship, work and fellowship. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of giving the Gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world. We also believe that each church should be independent and free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority; therefore, Church

and State must be kept separated as having different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from dictation or patronage of the other.

THE ORDINANCES:

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ instituted two ordinances for the local church: water baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe that the Christian baptism is by immersion of the believer in the name of the triune God. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for the commemoration of His death. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

CHURCH COOPERATION:

We believe that the church can best promote the cause of Jesus Christ by fellowshiping with other conference churches in a co-operational organization. Such an organization, whether a district, area or national conference exists and functions by the will of the churches. Cooperation in a conference is voluntary and may be terminated at any time. This church may likewise cooperate with like-minded fellowships on a voluntary, independent basis.

SATAN:

We believe that Satan is a personal created being and deceiver, that he is a liar and the accuser of the brethren, the enemy of the church and the adversary of the truth.

THE LAST THINGS:

We believe in the rapture of all believers and in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, and the establishing of a new heaven and a new earth. We believe in the eternal reward of the righteous, and the endless punishment of the wicked.