

The Bible (Sola Scriptura)

We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbally inspired word of God, the final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible, and God-breathed (2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; Matthew 5:18; John 16:12, 13).

The Godhead

We believe in one Triune God, eternally existing in three persons-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit-co-eternal in being, co-eternal in nature, co-equal in power and glory, having the same attributes and perfections (Deuteronomy 6:4; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

Person and Work of Christ

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful man (John 1:1-2, 14; Luke 1:35). We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice, and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead (Romans 3:24; 1 Peter 2:24; Ephesians 1:7; 1 Peter 1:3-5). We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry as Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate (Acts 1:9, 10; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 9:24; Romans 8:34; 1 John 2:1-2). We believe Jesus is coming again to judge the living and the dead (1 Peter 4:5; Romans 14:9; 2 Timothy 4:1).

Person and Work of The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling and sealing them unto the day of redemption (John 16:8-11; 2 Corinthians 3:6; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 5:18).

Total Depravity of Man

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that through Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God; man is totally depraved and of himself utterly unable to remedy his lost condition (Genesis 1:26, 27; Romans 3:22, 23; 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3, 12).

Salvation

We believe Jesus Christ paid the full penalty for all our sins by His death on the cross. We believe forgiveness of sin is based on grace alone, in Christ alone, and through faith alone. Salvation is not and never will be based on good deeds or behavior modification. Our faith relationship with God is eternal and is dependent on His grace a lot more than our goodness.

Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers

We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever (John 6:37-40; 10:27-30; Romans 8:1, 38, 39; 1 Corinthians 1:4-8; 1 Peter 1:5). We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, which clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion for the flesh (Romans 13:13, 14; Galatians 5:13; Titus 2:11-15).

Ministry and Spiritual Gifts

We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowing of spiritual gifts. It is, however, the believer's responsibility to attempt to develop their sovereignly given spiritual gift(s). The baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs at conversion and is the placing of the believer into the Body of Christ. We also believe that particular spiritual gift(s) are neither essential, nor prove the presence of the Holy Spirit, nor are an indication of deep spiritual experience (1 Corinthians 12:7, 11, 13; Ephesians 4:7-8). We believe that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith, in accordance with His own will, for the sick and afflicted (John 15:7; 1 John 5:14, 15). We believe that it is the privilege and responsibility of every believer to minister according to the gift(s) and grace of God that is given to him (Romans 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 13; 1 Peter 4:10-11).

The Church Community

We believe that the church, which is the body and espoused bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again persons (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 5:25-27; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 2 Corinthians 11:2). We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures (Acts 14:27; 18:22; 20:17; 1 Timothy 3:1-3; Titus 1:5-11). We believe in the autonomy of the local churches, free of any external authority and control (Acts 13:1-4; 15:19-31; 20:28; Romans 16:1,4; 1 Corinthians 3:9, 16; 1 Corinthians 5:4-7, 13; 1 Peter 5:1-4). We recognize believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper as scriptural means of testimony for the church (Matthew 28:19, 20; Acts 2:41, 42; Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

Baptism

Who Should Be Baptized? Anyone who has received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord should be baptized: "Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day" (Acts 2:41).

Why Should You Be Baptized?

1) Christ commands all believers to be baptized: "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

2) It is a standard for Christians worldwide: "For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body...whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free...and we were all given the one Spirit to drink" (1 Corinthians 12:13).

How Should You Be Baptized? The Greek word for baptism, baptizo, means "to identify with". At Grace Church, the method of baptism is not nearly as important as the motivation for baptism

Giving

Grace Church will never pressure you to give money because we believe giving to the Lord is an honor that comes from the heart out of obedience. We recognize Him as the Owner of all things, the Source of life and the Originator of all life's blessings. We are just managers of what He has graciously given to us. We simply want to make sure our "body" understands the importance of keeping God's Commands! It is out of love, and with a cheerful heart and should never feel like obligation. (John 14:15, 2 Corinthians 9:7)

Church Ordinances

We believe the church is made up of anyone who believes in Jesus Christ, regardless of denominational affiliation. Therefore, baptism and communion are open to anyone who confesses personal faith in Christ. We believe baptism and communion are symbolic. Baptism is symbolic of a spiritual "death to self" and a new life in Christ beginning. Communion is symbolic of our union with Christ and other believers.

Spiritual Maturity

We believe the goal of every Christian should be to grow in their understanding and practice of spiritual disciplines. This kind of maturity is found in obedience to the principles of the Bible and the leadership of God's Holy Spirit. Furthermore, we believe that a key component of spiritual maturity is discovering, developing, and deploying your unique spiritual gifts.

Church Discipline

We believe in the administration and submission to discipline by God through his Holy Spirit, to follow biblical procedures for church discipline in my relationships with brothers and sisters in Christ, to submit to righteous discipline when approached biblically by brothers and sisters in Christ, and to submit to discipline by church leadership if the need should ever arise (Ps. 141:5; Matt. 18:15-17; 1 Cor. 5:1-5; 2 Cor. 2:5-8; Gal. 6:1-5 8; 1 Tim. 5:20; 2 Tim. 2:25; Titus 1:9; 3:10-11; Heb. 12:5-11; Rev. 2:5-7, 14-25).