

## Faith Statements

**God** is the Creator and Sustainer of the universe. He eternally exists in three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are God.

*(Gen 1; Heb 1:1-3; Gen 1:26; Matt 3:16,17; Eph 2:18, 4:4-6)*

**Jesus Christ** is the Son of God who became a man and lived a sinless life. He chose to die on a cross and to take the sins of all people. He rose again to demonstrate His victory over sin and death, is now in Heaven, fills the earth with His presence and will return as promised.

*(1Tim 3:16; Jn 1:1,14; Heb 4:15; Jn 10:17-18; Rom 5:18-19; 2 Cor 5:21; Rom 14:9; Acts 7:55-56; Col 1:27; Eph 3:17; 1Thess 4:14-16)*

**The Holy Spirit** is present and active in the world: to make people aware of their need for Jesus Christ; to live in and supernaturally empower believers to do life well.

*(Jn 16:8-15; Rom 8:9-11; 2 Tim 1:13-14)*

**The Bible** is God's true message to humanity and was supernaturally authored by God through people. As the basis for Christian faith, it is relevant, applicable and has the power to transform lives.

*(2 Tim 3:16; 2 Pet 1:20-21; Mt 4:4; Rom 1:16,17; Heb 4:12)*

**People** were originally created by God in His image to have relationship with Him. Sin has distorted this image and separated people from God. God has made a way to restore relationship with Himself through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

*(Gen 1:26, 3:8; Rom 3:23; 2 Cor 5:19; 1 Cor 15:3; Jn 14:6)*

**Salvation** describes a new, life-long journey that we enter through believing in Jesus Christ as our Saviour. It is sustained through a lifestyle of faith, evidenced by obedience to God's teachings, and results in restoration and wholeness now, and is completed in Heaven. To live outside of salvation is to choose hell and separation from God, both now and for eternity.

*(Rom 10:9-10; Eph 2:8; Heb 10:38-39; Jam 2:14-18; Jn 14:21,23; Phil 2:12,13; Gal 3:5; 1 Pet 2:24; Rev 21:4-5; Mt 5:29, 10:28, 11:20-24)*

**The Church** universal (Body of Christ) is made up of all believers and is expressed through local churches, each with their unique, God-given vision and governance in order to display and implement the Kingdom of God.

*(Rom 12:4-5; 1 Cor 12:12-27; Eph 3:10, 4:11-13; 1 Pet 2:9-10; 2 Cor 3:2-3)*

Individual believers are the church at all times and have a need to meet together regularly for a sense of belonging, mutual encouragement, and to experience the empowering effects and benefits of unity. It is where we also experience the impartation of the Word of God, corporate worship is expressed in a variety of ways and there is an increased awareness of God's presence and power.

*(1 Cor 3:16; Heb 10:25; Ps 133; 1 Cor 14)*

It is also a place where **Gifts of the Spirit** such as healing, tongues, prophecy, miracles and words of knowledge are encouraged and embraced for the common good.

*(1 Cor 12:4-11)*

**Discipleship** is walking out the journey of salvation, by continually allowing the revelation of who Christ is in us and what He has done, to transform our lives.

*(2 Cor 3:17-18; Col 1:27).*

Discipleship occurs in relational networks and provides the freedom to be authentic for the nurturing of personal growth and safety through respectful accountability.

*(Jn 13:35, Heb 3:13)*

As effective disciples we cultivate our personal relationship with God, are water baptised and filled with the power of the Holy Spirit to show the world Who God is.

*(Jn 8:31; Col 4:2; Mt 28:19, Act 1:8)*

**Stewardship** is a lifestyle that makes evident the belief that all of my life and each aspect of it is a gift from God. One day I will give an account to Him for what I did with all He gave me.

These include but are not limited to: my spirit, soul, mind, body, health, opportunities, words I speak, attitudes, work ethic, the gift of salvation, creation, the gifts of the Spirit, relationships, time, talents, skills, abilities and finances.

*(1 Cor 3:13-15, 6:19-20; Rom 14:12; Mt 12:36, 25:14-46)*

Through all of time God has a **Purpose** of restoration for every individual, family, group, nation and the earth.

*(Ecc 3:1; Eph 1:9-11; Rom 8:18-22; Act 17:26)*

God has chosen me to be a vital part of outworking this purpose, affecting the world as I daily live out and walk towards the fulfilment of God's plan for my life and deliberately reach out to those in need.

*(Eph 1:5; Rom 8:28-29, 9:16-18; Jn 15:16; Lk 10:25-37)*

My life is a journey of purpose.

*(Phil 3:12-14)*