



# **Covenant Life Church**

## **Statement of Faith**

### **What We Believe About God**

We believe in one God, the Creator and Ruler of the universe, who has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present. Above all He is good and He desires the best for His creation.

### **What We Believe About Jesus Christ**

We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, in His conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, in His present priestly ministry, and in Christ's imminent personal return in power and great glory

We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God and that He is both fully God and fully man. Jesus lived a sinless life, fulfilling all the law and prophets, and He freely offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all mankind by dying on a cross. He was dead and buried. After three days, He rose again, demonstrating His power over both sin and death. He ascended into Heaven and will one day return to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

### **What We Believe About the Holy Spirit**

We believe the Holy Spirit is divine, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Son. He is present and active in the world today, making men aware of their need for salvation through Jesus Christ. He lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation, providing power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right.

### **What We Believe About the Bible**

We believe the Bible, consisting of the 39 Books of the Old Testament and the 27 Books of the New Testament, is God's word to all men. It was written by human authors under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, is God's revelation of Himself to man, and is Truth without any mixture of error. It is the supreme authority and standard for Christian beliefs, conduct, practices and living. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21)

## **What We Believe About Mankind**

We believe that mankind (both man and woman) is made in the image of God and as such, is the highest created being in the universe. From the beginning it was God's plan and desire to share His rule over the earth with mankind. Although mankind has tremendous potential for good, he is marred by sin. Because all men have sinned, all men are separated from God. The relationship between God and Man can only be restored through personal faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that since mankind is created in God's image, human life is of inestimable worth and significance in all its dimensions, from conception to the grave.

## **What We Believe About Salvation**

We believe man's relationship with God, broken by our disobedience, can only be restored by spiritual regeneration by the Holy Spirit, through repentance from sin and the profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Salvation can only be obtained by faith in Jesus Christ. It is entirely a gift from God and cannot be obtained through human merit or by good works. (Romans 10:9-10; Titus 3:4-7)

We believe good works are the necessary fruits of faith and follow regeneration, but they do not have the virtue to remove our sins or to avert divine judgment. We believe good works, pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, spring from a true and living faith, for through and by them faith is made evident.

## **What We Believe About Water Baptism**

Water baptism is commanded by the Scriptures and is a symbol of repentance and inner cleansing from sin, a representation of the new birth in Christ Jesus and a mark of Christian discipleship. All who repent and believe on Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life.

## **What We Believe About Holy Communion**

Communion is a memorial of Christ's atoning death and is a representation of our redemption. It is an expression of the union which Christians have with Christ and with one another.

## **What We Believe About Sexual Purity**

We believe that sexual purity is a necessary expression for all of God's children and requires abstinence from adultery, fornication, incest, homosexuality, or other sexual relationships or practices forbidden by Scripture. (Heb. 13:4, I Cor. 6:9-10, 18; Lev. 18; Rom. 1:26-28; 1 Tim. 1:10)

## **What We Believe About Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

While the indwelling of the Holy Spirit occurs at regeneration, we believe the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a special experience following salvation that empowers believers for witnessing and effective service and in the continuing work of the Holy Spirit as evidenced in charismatic gifts and ministries.