



General Statement

We believe that the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, is the revelation of God to mankind; is verbally and fully inspired by Him; is sufficient for the knowledge of God and His will; is necessary for the eternal welfare of mankind; is infallible, complete and errorless; and is the supreme and final authority for all Christian faith and conduct. (2 Timothy 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 Corinthians 2:13; Deuteronomy 29:29; 2 Timothy 3:15; John 10:35).

We believe that there is but one God, whose essential nature is that of a living, personal Spirit. He is infinitely perfect in all of His attributes; He is the creator and sustainer of all things; and He is manifested as Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Ghost). (1 Corinthians 8:4; John 4:24; 5:26; Genesis 1:1; Colossians 1:16,17; Matthew 28:19).

We believe that the Holy Spirit (The Spirit of God) was sent from the Father by the Son to convict the world, to regenerate and indwell those who trust in Christ; to baptize them into the Body of Christ; to seal them for the final day of redemption; to guide them into truth; to fill them for a life of holiness and victory; and to empower them for witness and service. We believe that He gives spiritual gifts to believers for the proper functioning of the Body of Christ, which is the Church. (Acts 5:3,4; John 16:7-14; 3:5-8; 1 Corinthians 2:9-12; 3:16; 12:3-13,28-31; Ephesians 1:13,14; Acts 1:8).

We believe that a person is saved by God's grace, made possible through the shed blood of Christ, whereby He died a substitutionary death for mankind, and is alive in us through His Resurrection. Salvation becomes effective when a person, by an act of faith, acknowledges Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and Lord. The benefits of this salvation include the forgiveness of sins and a new standing before God, the impartation of new life and all the privileges that accompany a new family relationship with God. The assurance of salvation as a present possession is the privilege of every believer in Christ. (Ephesians 2:8,9; 1 Corinthians 15:3; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9; Acts 3:19; Romans 3:28; John 3:16; John 1:12; 10:28; Philippians 1:6).

We believe that God expects every believer to live a life of obedience, in which every area of his life is brought under the lordship of Jesus Christ and the fruit of the Spirit becomes increasingly evident in his life. The goal of the Christian life is to be conformed to the image of Christ. This life is characterized supremely by self-giving love for God and for others. The life and character of Christ, which grows through the Holy Spirit, is noticeably distinct from the life of the world. A believer who resists the gracious working of the Holy Spirit and fails to grow in obedience is chastened in infinite love by his Heavenly Father so he may learn obedience. (John 14:21; 2 Corinthians 10:4,5; Galatians 5:22,23; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Matthew 22:37-40; 1 John 2:15-17; Hebrews 12:5-14).

We believe that the Church of Jesus Christ is the collective company of God's redeemed people, His Body, of which He is the head. We are His Bride, whom He loves infinitely, and His temple, in which He dwells. This collective Body of Christ is visibly expressed in local assemblies, whose purpose is to glorify

God through worship, fellowship, instruction in God's Word, observing the ordinances and training in service to the world. The supreme task in the mission of the Church is to make disciples for Christ in all the nations through the proclamation and teaching of the Gospel. The Church is also to demonstrate the love and compassion of Christ, through word and deed. (1 Peter 2:9,10; Ephesians 1:22,23; 5:25-27; 2:19-22; 1 Thessalonians 2:14; Ephesians 3:6-10; Acts 2:42; Ephesians 4:11-13; Hebrews 10:25; Matthew 28:18-20; 26:26-29; 1 John 4:17).

Our statement of faith incorporates several core principles:

- ❖ We honor and obey God and His Word above all.
- ❖ We study the Word of God to be equipped and proficient for every good work.
- ❖ We accept the responsibility to pray daily according to the Word of God.
- ❖ We understand our duty to witness to those who do not know Jesus Christ.
- ❖ We all accept responsibility to contribute to the work of the ministry at CCC.
- ❖ We obey the mandates of God to regularly tithe and give offerings.
- ❖ We believe praise and worship is an essential element of our daily life.
- ❖ We respect our pastor and the leadership of CCC.
- ❖ We show mutual respect and love for each other.
- ❖ We seek opportunities to enhance our church, neighborhood and community.
- ❖ We recognize and praise the efforts and successes of all CCC members.
- ❖ We commit to the mission, vision, and core principles of CCC.

Recognition of Marriage

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen 1:26-27.) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen 2:18-25.) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4.) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Christian Covenant Church as the local Body of Jesus Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the Christian Covenant Church members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Christian Covenant Church in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. (Matt 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Thess. 5:22).

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11).

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31.) Hateful behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are inconsistent with Biblical scripture and our Christian principles. However, we do not define righteousness indignation as hateful behavior in defending our faith. While we maintain respect for all mankind, we will continue to express opposition to any lifestyle that is inconsistent with the Word of God (Bible).

Because God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself, Christian Covenant Church will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman. All persons requesting to be married by any pastor/clergy of Christian Covenant Church shall undergo mandatory marriage counseling for a duration deemed appropriate by the pastors/clergy of Christian Covenant Church. Further, the pastors/clergy and staff of Christian Covenant Church shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman. It is noted that marriage ceremonies are part of our form of worship and are to be celebrated as representations of the union between Jesus Christ and the church (Eph. 5:25). Finally, the facilities and property of Christian Covenant Church shall only host weddings between one man and one woman.

Sanctity of Human Life

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Ps 139.)

Final Authority for Matters of Belief and Conduct

This statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of Christian Covenant Church's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our senior pastor/leader is Christian Covenant Church's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.