

Statement of Faith

WE BELIEVE . . .

God

There is only one true God who is the eternal King, Creator and Redeemer of all that is. He is perfectly holy, just, loving and truthful. He is self-existent and has revealed himself as a Trinity, one being in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:26; Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 3:16-17; Luke 1:35; 1 John 5:7; Hebrews 3:7-11).

Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ is God the Son, the one and only Son of God. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin, Mary, and is God's Anointed One, empowered by the Holy Spirit to inaugurate God's Kingdom on earth. He lived a sinless life, was crucified for our sins, died, was buried, resurrected and ascended into heaven. He is now alive and dwells both in heaven with the Father and in his people on earth. He is "true God" and "true man" (Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1,14,17,20:28; Philippians 2:5-6; I Timothy 2:5,3:16).

Holy Spirit

In the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life and minister super-naturally. The baptism of the Holy Spirit according to Acts 1:4-8 and 2:4 is poured out on believers that they might have God's power to be His witnesses.

Holy Bible

The Holy Bible is the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God (Romans 16:25-16; II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20-21).

The Church

The church consists of all who put their faith in Jesus Christ. He gave his church the ordinances of Baptism and Communion. The Church exists to carry on the ministry of Jesus Christ and further advance His kingdom by undoing the works of the enemy, preaching and living the good news of God's love, discipling the nations, baptizing and teaching them to love and obey God (John 17:11, 20-21; Ephesians 1:22, 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23).

Redemption

Humankind was created in the image of God to know and enjoy Him yet we willfully rejected the Lordship and glory of God for which we were intended. Because of this, sickness, death and judgment entered the world and now creation experiences the effects and consequences of sin. Our only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the son of God (Gen.1:26-31, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-21).

Salvation

We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ: His death, burial, and resurrection. Salvation is a gift from God, not a result of our good works or of any human efforts (Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9-10; Galatians 2:16, 3:8; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; Hebrews 9:22).

The Cross

The victorious redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides freedom from the power of the enemy – sin, lies, sickness and torment (John 1:29; Romans 3:10-12, 23 5:9; Colossians 1:20; 1 John 1:7; Revelation 1:5, 5:9).

Statement of Faith (cont...)

Heaven and Hell

Heaven and hell are real places. There will be a resurrection of the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting death (Matthew 5:13, 12, 20, 6:20, 25:41; Mark 9:43-48; John 17:24; II Corinthians 5:1; Hebrews 9:27, 11:16; Revelation 14:9-11, 20:12-15, 21:8).

Second Coming

In the ever-increasing government of God and in the Blessed Hope, which is the glorious visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to rule and reign with His overcoming bride – the church (Thesalonians 1:7-8; Revelation 1:7).

Statement of Purpose

To reach people with God's love and presence that they may live in their purpose as sons and daughters of God.

Living as sons and daughters of God means we have God's heart for the world, which was lived out by Jesus Christ:

- The lost saved
- The gospel preached
- God's kingdom expanded

Our purpose is based on three scriptures:

- John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.
- Matthew 6:9-10 - Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will done, on earth as it is in heaven.
- Galatians 4:7 - So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, you are also an heir through God.

Oak City Church exists to

- To go on the journey for more of God
- To grow the Body of Christ around the presence of God
- To impact the world with the Gospel of the Kingdom of God



FOUNDATIONS OF OUR FAITH

Nature of God

Father God -- God is referred to as Father approximately 15 times in the Old Testament and 165 times in the New Testament.

- Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdoms come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:9
- Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom of God. Luke 12:32

God is Good — He is in a good mood

- Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him. Psalm 34:8
- Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. James 1:17

Salvation

Jesus is the way

- Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6

Gift of salvation

- For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8

Jesus' Blood Paid for Everything

- He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 1 Peter 2:24
- For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

Salvation

We are new creations

- Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away, behold, the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17

We are children of God

- So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. Galatians 4:6

Repentance from Dead Works

Sin

- ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. Romans 3:23

Repentance

- If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

New Self

- ...to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:22-24
- Specifically, I affirm the sacredness of sexuality and marriage. In marriage, I will be completely faithful to my spouse. I believe Scripture teaches that sex is a blessing to be rightly experienced only within heterosexual marriage. Therefore I will avoid sex outside of marriage, pornography, living as husband and wife when not married and/or homosexuality. Hebrews 13:4, Matthew. 15:19, Romans. 13:13, 1 Corinthians. 6:9-20

Baptism

Water baptism

Word of God

Active and Living

- For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Hebrews 4:12-13

Doctrine and Correction

- All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Body of Christ

Everyone is significant

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