



CONFIRMATION OF FAITH

OUR BELIEFS

1. We believe in the historically orthodox position about the Bible.

God inspired the text working through human authors so that which was written is ultimately the work of God and is therefore accurate, reliable, trustworthy and authoritative for our faith and practice as Christians. Inspiration, God breathing, was the work of the Holy Spirit working through the human authors so that which they produced, in many different styles and genres, is exactly what God wanted written down and is therefore His thoughts revealing what His people are to believe and how they are to behave. The result is inspiration in that the Scriptures are the final authority for our faith and practice.

2. We believe in the historically orthodox position about the Trinity.

We understand that there is one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Our God has a unity in essence with a diversity of persons. The Father is God. The Son, Jesus Christ, is God equal with the Father. In the Incarnation Jesus as God became fully human without sacrificing in any way His deity. He has been eternally generated from the Father. The Holy Spirit is God equal with both the Father and the Son and has eternally proceeded from both the Father and the Son.

3. We believe in Justification by Faith.

All men and women are born sinners and as a result of sin, fall short of God's glory. However, Jesus Christ, on the cross, became sin on behalf of all sinners. When an individual, by faith, trusts in the vicarious work of Jesus in that person's behalf, God imputes His righteousness to that person's account, thereby forgiving that person of sin and providing eternal life. Person's who do not exercise such faith in Jesus Christ, face God's judgment for their sin and are eternally separated from God.

OUR VALUES

1. LEADERSHIP

God has given leaders to His church, to lead groups of believers (congregations) to follow them in accomplishing God's mission for His church which is to make disciples for Jesus Christ. Leaders accomplish this task by recruiting, training and mobilizing followers to use their gifts to serve the church body in seeing God's mission for the church accomplished.

2. MISSION

We value missional congregations. We believe that the ultimate reason for local congregations to exist is to fulfill Jesus' mandate for His church which is to not allow the "Gates of Hell" to prevail. Congregations failing to make new disciples for Jesus Christ on a regular and consistent basis are not only ineffective in achieving God's purpose for His church, but they are disobedient to God's very purpose for establishing His Church.

3. CREATIVITY

We are not committed to any philosophy of ministry or congregational structure. God calls His church to function in a myriad of ways in different cultures and contexts. He expects the leaders of congregations to act like missionaries, figuring out the best ways to reach any community with the Good news of God's saving grace through Jesus Christ. The issue is not how ministry is done but what is accomplished (making new disciples for Jesus Christ on a regular and consistent basis). Also the purpose of any structure is to accomplish the mission and vision of an organized entity in the most effective and efficient way. This means the marriage of authority, responsibility and accountability. When such occurs the structure serves the mission and vision not vice versa.

4. SPIRITUAL VITALITY

Our goal is to find where God is working and the people through whom God is working and then join God and get out of the way.

5. NETWORKING

We are not in business to create a larger and larger organization. We are in business to network, resource and broker leaders whom God is using to lead congregations to accomplish His mission of making more disciples for Jesus Christ on a regular and consistent basis.