

FBC STATEMENT OF BELIEF

THE WORD OF GOD – We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God, inerrant in the original writings. (2 Timothy 3:16-17) We believe the Bible is complete as the revelation of God's will for salvation, and is the supreme and final authority in all matters pertaining to life and godliness. (2 Peter 1:3) God has miraculously preserved the text we now have so that what we have is authoritative. We believe in a historical, grammatical interpretation of God's Word.

THE TRINITY – We believe in one sovereign God, who created and sustains all things. He eternally exists in three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1, Matthew 28:19-20)

JESUS CHRIST – We believe that Jesus Christ is God's eternal Son, and has precisely the same nature, attributes and perfections as God the Father. (John 1:1-3) We believe He is not only fully God, but also fully man. (Philippians 2:5-8) We believe He was miraculously conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. (Matthew 1:18-25) We also believe in His sinless life, His death for our sins, His bodily resurrection from the dead and His ascension into Heaven. (1 Corinthians 15:3-4) Today, we have access to the Father through Him.

HOLY SPIRIT – We believe the Holy Spirit is fully God. (Matthew 28:19-20) He implements Christ's work of redeeming the lost and He empowers the believer for godly living and service. (Ephesians 1:13-14; Acts 1:8)

MAN – We believe God created man, male and female, in the image of God. (Genesis 1:26-27) We further believe that man, as a result of the fall is a sinner by nature and choice and is therefore spiritually dead. (Genesis 2:15-17)

MANKIND – Mankind is the special creation of God, made in His own image (Genesis 1:26-30). He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation (Genesis 2:5-18, 22-30). The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race (Genesis 3). Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin.

Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God (Ephesians 2:1-10). The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created mankind in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

SALVATION – We believe in salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 2:8-9) We believe man needs to trust in Christ only, for the forgiveness of sins. He died in our place on the cross and rose from the dead for our justification. (John 3:16) This results in a salvation received apart from human effort. We do believe salvation results in righteous living, good works, social concern and action. (James 2:14-18)

THE CHURCH – We believe the Church is the spiritual body, formed and gifted by Christ. (Matthew 16:18 and Ephesians 4:7-13) We believe the true Church is composed of all persons who are trusting in Christ for salvation. (1 Corinthians 12:13) Our local assembly is made up of members who have been baptized by immersion upon a credible confession of faith and have associated themselves for worship, instruction, evangelism and service. We believe in two ordinances of the local Church. They are: 1) believer's baptism by immersion (Matthew 28:19-20) and 2) the Lord's Supper. (1 Corinthians 11:23-29) We also believe the local Church should be self-governing.

THE FAMILY – We believe that God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society (Genesis 2:18-25). Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime (Ephesians 5:21-33). Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and a heritage from the Lord. (Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Psalm 139:13-16, Ephesians 6:1-4)

LAST THINGS – We believe in the bodily resurrection of the saved and lost, (Matthew 12:36 and Romans 14:10) and the eternal existence of all believers in heaven and all unbelievers in hell. (Matthew 25:46) We believe someday Jesus Christ will return for His Church and will reign eternally. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and Revelation 20:4)

This statement of belief does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible itself is the sole and final source of all that we believe. We do believe that the foregoing statement accurately represents the teaching of the Bible and therefore is binding upon all members. All literature used in the Church shall be in complete agreement with this statement of belief.