

Summary of Basic Beliefs

This is a basic summary of beliefs and emphases generally held by us as Christians who gather as a Baptist church. It is what “we together as a church believe” as we serve God and seek His Will together. It does not take the place of the Bible, which is our standard for faith and practice, but emerges out of it.

We believe...

- in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – co-eternal, co-existent, co-equal and co-operative, as affirmed in Scripture and as summarized in the ancient Christian confessions of faith.¹
- that the Bible is inspired by God and is the standard against which all Christian belief and behaviour is measured.
- that human beings are incapable of saving themselves and stand in need of God’s gracious love and that Jesus Christ, who is fully God and fully human, has, through His death and resurrection saved us and brought us into a relationship with God; we begin to experience this when we repent from and confess our sin, and commit our lives under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, our only Saviour.
- that Christ has founded and is head of the Universal Church throughout the world and history; and that as a local church we are an autonomous assembly of believing disciples responsible to discern the mind of Christ - in the light of Scripture, with the leading of the Holy Spirit - under the Lordship of Christ.
- that Christ has, according to the Scriptures, instituted two church ordinances: believer’s baptism and the communion of the Lord’s Table
- that each local church is to model a better way of life according to the principles of the Kingdom of God. Because a Christian disciple’s first and highest loyalty is to God, so also each church, while respecting those secular laws not in conflict with the commands of God, should be free from state control.
- that in every country all people should be entitled to the freedom of religious expression, while respecting the laws of that country and the beliefs of others.
- that we, in response to the Great Commission,² have been sent out³ and given the task of making disciples – disciplined followers of Jesus Christ – from among all ethnic groups (nations).

¹ This refers to the Trinitarian formulae of the Apostles’ Creed and the Nicene Creed.

² Matthew 28: 18-20

³ John 20: 21-22

- that just as the Trinity is the model of eternal co-operation so we as a church are to co-operate together in mission with God, with each other, and with other like-minded Christian churches and organizations: locally, nationally, and internationally - so that the world may believe.⁴
- that we live and serve together here on earth in anticipation of our future celebration and service of God in Glory with the redeemed of every nation and generation.⁵

⁴ ibid & John 17: 21

⁵ Revelation 7: 7-12