<u>What We Believe</u>

Kingdom Life Community Ministries

1. The Triune Godhead

There is only one true and living God, who is the creator of all. He is triune in His divine nature- One God, in single divine essence, existing as three distinct and entirely equal persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. He is eternal, sovereign, omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent and holy.

Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19; Psalm 90:2; Psalm 139:1-13; Revelation 19:6

2. God The Father

We believe in God the Father. As one of the three persons of the Godhead, He is one with the Son and the Holy Spirit. It is the Father who so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son so that whosoever believes on Him will not perish but have everlasting life. Every redemptive act revealed through scripture illustrates the Father's love and longing to be united with His creation through adoption into His family as His children. *I Chron.* 29:10; *Is.* 63:16; *Is.* 64:8; *Matt.* 6:9; *John* 1:12-13; *John* 3:16; *Rom.* 8:15; *I Peter* 1:17

3. Jesus Christ, God the Son, Savior and Lord

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Anointed One and Promised Messiah and God the Son. As one of the three persons of the Godhead, He is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. He is eternally, essentially, and equally God. He has existed since before the beginning of time as "The Word" of God. He is God incarnate, God in human form, the expressed image of the Father, who, without ceasing to be God, became man in order that mankind might be saved. He manifested Himself in human form, being born to a virgin named Mary. He was tempted by evil, and though He never sinned, He became a substitutionary sacrifice for the sins of the whole world as He suffered and was crucified upon a cross. He was resurrected from the dead, ascended into heaven and now sits at the right hand of God the Father. He will soon return to receive all those who have placed their faith and trust in Him.

. John 1:1-5, 14-18; Matt. 1:18-25, 3:16-17; Lk 2:41-52; I Cor. 15: 51-53; Col 1:15-20; II Cor. 5:21; I John 2:2; Is 53:5-6; Rom 8:34; Gal 3:26

4. The Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit. As one of the three persons of the Godhead, He is one with the Father and the Son. He is eternally, essentially, and equally God. He has existed since the beginning and can been seen working throughout the history of scripture from Genesis 1 to Revelation 22. The Holy Spirit reveals the nature of God to those who do not know Him, draws them into salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and seals them, guaranteeing their salvation unto the day of redemption. He is the True Teacher who reveals truth to believers as they study the Word of God. He also endows believers with the character of the Kingdom and spiritual gifts to enable them to accomplish the ministry of the Kingdom.

Gen. 1:1-2; Eph. 1:13-14; Acts 5:3-4; John 1:32-34, 4:24; I Cor 2:9-12, 12:11; II Cor 3:17

5. The fallen nature of man

God created mankind in His image (triune form) and likeness (spiritual function). He created us to enjoy a close, personal and intimate relationship with Him. The rebellion and sin of the first man, Adam, caused him and his wife to be separated from this divine relationship. As a result, all people since, enter this life in a state of eternal separation. None is righteous and all are lost apart from the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Man lacks the power, within himself, to alter this condition. *Gen 1-3; Rom 3:9-31, 5:12-14, 6:23; Gal 3:1-5; Eph 2:1-4*

6. Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and the finished work of the Cross alone

Salvation – the reversal of man's separation from God – cannot be accomplished by any human effort or "good" deed, no matter how noble, sincere and beneficial the effort or deed may be. Salvation is the result of trusting solely in Jesus Christ and His finished work of the cross – His death, burial and resurrection - as the only means of being restored to a close, personal and intimate relationship with God. It is coming to God through grace alone, by faith alone, in Jesus alone. We believe that salvation is a gift of God's grace. Christ's death fully accomplished justification as He died in our place and bore our sins in His own body.

I Peter 2:24; Eph 2:8-10; Rom 5:8-9; John 6:37-40, 10:27-30; Rom 5:1-2

7. The Holy Scriptures – The Word of God

The Bible, both Old and New Testaments, has been given to us by direct inspiration from God, and we accept it as the inerrant and infallible Word of God, a perfect and authoritative expression of His will for mankind. Through 3 languages and more than 1600 years, the Holy Spirit perfectly guided its scribes regarding what has been written without error or omission.

Deut 8:3; Prov 30:5; Is 40: 8, 55:10-11; John 1:1, 17:17; II Peter 1:21; Matt 5:18; II Tim 3:16-17

8. The Ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of a Christian

The Holy Spirit establishes spiritual residence in believers and leads us into the truth, knowledge, understanding and wisdom we need to be faithful followers of Christ and fruitful workers for the Kingdom of God. The Holy Spirit is the gift of God to those who believe. He also endows believers with spiritual gifts, empowers us to serve effectively, and develops in us the evidence of the Christian life – the fruit of the Spirit. He is ultimately sovereign in the distribution of spiritual gifts and we believer that the miraculous gifts of the Spirit still function today and are available to believers who yield themselves to the Spirit's operation of such gifts in, through and around them. *Luke 11:13; John 7: 37-40; 14: 12-26; 16: 12-15; Acts 1, 2, 6, 8, 10, 19; Gal 5:22-23; I Thess. 4:8; I Cor. 12:11*

9. The Christian Life: "There is a way..."

There is a prescribed way in which Christians are to live their lives. It influences the way we think, the way we communicate and the way we act. There are only two ways to live: God's way or the world's way! Living according to God's way, in obedience to His will and in agreement with His word, leads to a life of blessings and fulfilled divine promises. Living according to the way of this world, no matter how right it may seem to us, will ultimately lead us into loss and destruction. It is impossible to live according to God's way without wisdom. All true wisdom comes from God, which He freely gives to all who ask of Him. No other form of "worldly wisdom" will sufficiently equip us for living according to the way of God. We prayerfully study the Bible as the standard by which we govern our lives, seeking knowledge, understanding and wisdom based upon the truth it reveals.

Matt. 7:13,14; Ps 1:1-6; 119:1; Prov 8, 14:12; 4:11; 22:6; John 14:6; Acts 18:24-26; I Cor. 1:20-25, 2:6-15; James 1:5-8

10. The Kingdom of God

God is sovereign and rules over all creatures and things and in this sense, all creatures and things are of His Kingdom, that is, under the dominion of the King. More specifically, however, the kingdom of God refers to the sphere of God's influence, wherein his subjects willingly submit to His righteous rule, accepting the responsibilities expected of and appropriating the rights afforded to kingdom citizens. The kingdom of God is not a physical, but a spiritual reality, and is to be alive within all born-again believers. We enter the kingdom of God when we are born again, and we are then part of that kingdom for eternity. The kingdom is central to Jesus' teaching and preaching, revealing that it is the will of God for all believers to experience the daily reality of living as kingdom citizens. *Dan 2:44, 4:3; I Cor 4:20; Rev 12:10; Is 9:7; Matt 6:10; Luke 12:32; Psalm 103:19*

11. The Church

The church, also known as the Body of Christ, is a spiritual organism consisting of all those who have received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and Christ is the head of the church. As a local extension of that body, we believe a church gathers as a community of faith to fulfill the six-fold purposes revealed by our Lord in the Great Commandment and the Great Commission: *Worship, Fellowship, Outreach, Evangelism, Initiation, and Perfecting.* We believe it is in God's plan that godly and wise church eldership provide oversight of the work of the church through effective spirit-led administration. As a community of faith, we observe the ordinances of water baptism of believers by immersion as a testimony to Christ and identification with Him, and the Lord's Supper as a remembrance of Christ's death and shed blood. It is through the church that believers are to be taught to obey the Lord, to live according to the principles of the kingdom and to honor the Lord by holy living.

Matt 16:18, 18:20; John 1:12-13; Heb 10:25; Acts14:19,23; Ephesians 1:22-23,5:23-27; Col. 1:18; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:41-42, 18:8; I Corinthians 11:23-26;

12. The Resurrection of all dead and Return of Christ

We believe in and look forward to with great joy and anticipation, the physical resurrection of all men—the saved to everlasting joy and bliss on the New Earth, and the unsaved to eternal punishment in the lake of fire, and the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe He will return soon to rapture His saints and establish His promised kingdom. *Zechariah* 14:4-11; *I* Thessalonians 1:10; *Revelation* 3:10, 19:11-16, 20:1-6; *Matthew* 25:46; *John* 5:28-29; *Revelation* 20:5-6, 12-13; *I* Thessalonians 4:13-18