



# Fleetwood Bible Church

## Statement of Faith

### 1. The Scriptures

We believe the Bible, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is the inspired Word of God, without error in the original manuscripts, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of humanity, and the supreme authority for all matters of faith and practice.

Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19; Psalm 19:7-10; 119:11, 89, 105; Proverbs 30:5; Isaiah 40:8; 55:10-11; Matthew 5:17-18; 22:29; 24:35; Luke 21:33; 24:44-46; John 5:39; 17:17; Acts 2:16-36; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

### 2. The Holy Trinity

We believe in the mystery of the Holy Trinity, the one true and living God, eternally co-existent in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—equal in every divine perfection, executing different yet harmonious functions in the work of creation, redemption, and providence.

Genesis 1:26; 3:22; 11:7; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Isaiah 6:8; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 1:9-11; Acts 20:28; Romans 14:17-18; 1 Corinthians 2:2-5; 6:11; 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; 13:14; Galatians 3:11-14; 4:6; Ephesians 2:18; 3:14-19; 4:4-6; Colossians 1:3-8; 1 Thessalonians 1:3-5; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; Hebrews 10:29-31; 1 Peter 1:2; 4:14; 1 John 5:7; Jude 1:20-21.

### 3. God the Father

We believe in God the Father almighty—omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent—Maker of heaven and earth, Who is both immanent to and transcendent above His creation, sovereign over the affairs of humanity, and infinitely perfect in love, holiness, goodness, justice, wisdom, power, grace, and truth.

Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; 20:1-7; Leviticus 22:2; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 2 Samuel 7:22; 1 Chronicles 29:10-13; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 43:15; 64:8; Jeremiah

10:10; Matthew 6:9-13; 7:11; 23:9; John 4:24; 5:26; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6; 12:28-29; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 4:8; 16.

#### **4. Jesus Christ**

We believe in the full humanity and deity of God's only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and in His virgin birth, His sinless life, His love, His teachings, His miracles, His substitutionary death on the cross, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, His present ministry as High Priest and Advocate, and His personal, visible return in power and great glory at the end of the age.

Psalms 2:7-12; 110:1-4; Isaiah 7:14; 53:1-12; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 14:33; 16:16, 27; 17:5; 28:1-6, 19; Mark 1:1; Luke 1:34-35; 22:70; John 1:1-18, 29; 10:30, 38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:3, 6-11; 16:15-16, 28; 17:1-5; 20:1-20, 28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3, 34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 8:6; 15:1-8, 24-28; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:20-23; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 9:12-15, 24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 2:1; 4:14-15; Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 19:16.

#### **5. The Holy Spirit**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, Who is the fully divine third Person of the Trinity, and that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Son of God, to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, to effectually draw people to the Savior, to regenerate repentant sinners who confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to illuminate the truth of God, and to indwell, seal, secure, guide, gift, fill, and empower believers for service and holy living.

Genesis 1:2; Psalm 139:7-10; Isaiah 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 12:28-32; 28:19; Luke 1:35; 4:1, 18-19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49; John 4:24; 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4, 38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17, 39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11, 14-16, 26-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11, 13; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:14; 3:16; Hebrews 9:8, 14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13; 5:6-7; Revelation 1:10; 22:17.

#### **6. Salvation**

We believe humanity was created in the image of God but willfully fell into sin and condemnation through disobedience; therefore, the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection from the dead provide the only ground for justification and salvation from

sin, and that only those who repent of their sins and receive Christ by faith are born of the Spirit and become children of God forever.

Genesis 1:27; 3:15; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 27:22-28:6; Luke 2:28-32; John 1:11-14, 29; 3:3-21, 36; 5:24; 8:35-36; 10:27-29; 14:6; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; Romans 1:16-18; 3:23-26; 4:3-8; 5:8-10; 8:1-18, 29-39; 10:9-10, 13; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13-14; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-10; Philippians 1:6; Colossians 1:19-23; 3:1-4; ; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 1:3-12; 1 John 5:11-13.

## 7. The Church

We believe the universal church is a spiritual family of believers over which Jesus Christ is Head and all regenerated persons are members, and that the local church today is that company of believers in Jesus Christ who have been baptized on a credible profession of faith and are associated for Christian worship, growth, and service.

Matthew 16:15-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-42; 14:27; 15:1-30; 16:5; 20:28-29; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2-3; 3:16; 5:4; 9:13-14; 10:1-4; 12:1-14:5; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-12; 14; 21; 5:22-32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 3:15; Hebrews 4:1-2; 11:39-40; 1 Peter 2:4-5; 9-10; Revelation 2-3; 21:2-3.

## 8. Christian Conduct

We believe that Christians should live in love and holiness for the glory of God and the well-being of their neighbors, that their conduct should be blameless before the world and consistent with the values of Scripture, that they should be faithful stewards of their God-given time, talent, and treasure, and that they should seek to realize for themselves and others the full stature of maturity in Christ.

Deuteronomy 10:12; Micah 6:8; Zechariah 8:16-17; Matthew 5:13-16, 43-48; 6:19-21; 22:36-40; 25:14-30; 34-36; Luke 10:27-37; 16:1-13; John 15:12; Acts 2:44-47; 20:35; Romans 12:1-15:4; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 5:9-11; 6:1-7, 19-20; 10:23-11:1; 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8:1-9:15; Ephesians 4:25-5:20; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; James 1:27; 2:8.

## 9. The Ordinances

We believe that Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church, both of which are “visible words” that proclaim and signify the Gospel until Jesus Christ returns: Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Triune God, and Holy Communion is the partaking of the bread and the cup as a commemoration of Christ’s atoning death on the cross until He returns; these ordinances may be regarded as signs and seals of God’s grace but not as a means of salvation.

Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12.

## 10. Marriage and Family

We believe that marriage was ordained by God in creation as the sacred union of one man and one woman. Sexual relations that are sanctioned by God are conducted within this union. Moreover, Christian marriage is intended by God to be a permanent covenant relationship between believers, and a spiritual representation of the relationship between Christ and his church. We also believe that children are a blessing from the Lord. Human life is therefore sacred and worthy of reasonable care and protections from conception to natural death.

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:24; Deuteronomy 7:3; Psalm 127:3; 139:13-16; Jeremiah 1:5a; Matthew 19:1-9; Luke 1:41; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 7:1-11; Ephesians 5:31-33; Hebrews 13:4.

## 11. Religious Liberty

We believe that God alone is Lord of the conscience, that He has left it free from human dictates that are contrary to His Word, that all people may have immediate fellowship with God and are ultimately responsible to Him in matters of faith and practice, that each church is independent and must be free from any undue interference by ecclesiastical or political authorities, and that church and state have different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from the dictation or patronage of the other.

Genesis 1:27; 2:7; Matthew 6:6-7; 16:26-27; 22:21; John 8:36; Acts 4:18-20; Romans 6:1-2; 13:1-7; Galatians 5:1, 13; Philippians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:1-3; James 4:12; 1 Peter 2:12-17; 3:8-17; 4:12-19.

## 12. Church Cooperation

We believe that local Christian churches can best promote the cause of Christ by working together and sharing resources with one another, but only to the extent that such cooperation is prudent and productive, and does not undermine the integrity of the Gospel; participation in various events, projects, services, or outreaches, and affiliations with various districts, denominations, or other organization are completely voluntary and terminatable.

Exodus 17:12; 18:17-26; Ezra 1:3-4; 2:68-69; Nehemiah 4:1-23; 8:1-8; Matthew 20:1-16; 22:1-10; 28:18-20; Mark 2:3; Luke 10:1-17; Acts 1:13-14; 2:1-4; 4:32-37; 13:2-3; 15:1-35; Romans 16:1-18; 1 Corinthians 1:10-17; 3:5-10; 5:11; 12:1-13:13; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 8:1-9:15; Galatians 1:6-10; Ephesians 4:1-16; Philippians 1:15-

18; 3:2-3; Colossians 4:7-17; Revelation 18:4-5.

### 13. Last Things

We believe that God, in His own time and in His own way, will suddenly bring the world to its appropriate end, that according to His promise, Jesus Christ will return to the earth personally, visibly, and in power and great glory, that the dead will be raised, and Christ will judge all humanity in righteousness, that the unrighteous will be consigned to the place of everlasting punishment and eternal separation from God, and the righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and live forever with the Lord.

Matthew 16:27; 18:8-9; 19:28; 24:26-27, 30, 36, 44; 25:31-46; 26:64; Luke 12:40; 16:19-26; 21:27-28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 17:31; Romans 14:10-12; 1 Corinthians 3:12-15; 4:5; 15:22-26, 35-58; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Philippians 3:20-21; Colossians 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 5:1-4; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; 2:1-4; 1 Timothy 6:14-15; 2 Timothy 4:1, 8; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 9:27-28; James 5:8-9; 2 Peter 3:3-10; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14; Revelation 1:18; 3:11; 20:1-22:13.



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