

STATEMENT OF FAITH

ABOUT THE BIBLE

We believe the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, are fully inspired revelation of God to man. They are without any error or discrepancy in the original manuscript, and are the final authority in all matters concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind. It is the final source of all that we believe. **(2 Tim. 3:15-16; 2 Pet. 1:19-21)** The statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. For purposes of Emmanuel Fellowship's faith, doctrine, practice, policy and discipline, our ministers and elders will be our final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

ABOUT THE TRINITY

We believe in one Triune God, eternally existing in three persons – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All three persons are eternal, and equal; they are separate but cannot be separated, and that they perform distinct but harmonious functions in the work of creation, providence and redemption.

(Gen. 1:26-27; Gen. 3:22; Deut. 6:4; Psalm 90:2; Is. 48:16; John 1:1-2; Acts 5:3-4; 2 Cor. 13-14; 1 Pet. 1:2)

ABOUT GOD THE FATHER

We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He is truly concerned in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. **(1 Tim. 1:17; Rom. 8:14; Matt. 6:11; 1 John 3:1-2; 1 John 4:14-15)**

ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

We believe Jesus Christ is 100% God and 100% man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and borne of the Virgin Mary. He died on the cross. Though He committed no sin, yet He died for all the sins committed by all people from the beginning of time through to its end. He sacrificed Himself as a substitute payment for us, and all who believe in Him as Lord are justified on the basis of His shed blood. He rose from the dead as the Scriptures said He would. He is now at the right hand of the Father on high as our great High Priest. He will come again to establish His kingdom of righteousness and peace and bring judgment to the earth. **(Luke 1:36-38; Matt. 26:64; Acts 2:23-24; Rom. 5:9; Heb. 2:29; Heb. 8:1; Phil. 2:6-11; 1 Pet. 3:18)**

ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a Person who compellingly makes the world aware of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He is the supernatural source of power in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling and sealing them unto the day of redemption. **(John 16:8-11; 2 Cor. 3:6; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; Rom. 8:9; Eph. 1:13-14)**

We believe that He is the Divine Teacher who guides, empowers, directs and gifts believers for holy service and into all truth; and that it is a commandment to experience the privilege of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit. We believe the gifts of the Spirit are still active today. **(John 16:13; 1 John 2:20,27; Eph. 5:18)**

ABOUT HUMAN BEINGS

We believe man was originally created in the image and likeness of God. He fell through disobedience, incurring thereby both physical and spiritual death. All men are born with a nature that has a propensity to sin which separates them from the life of God, and can be reunited with the Father only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ. The portion of the impenitent and unbelieving is existence forever in conscious torment; and that of the believer in everlasting joy and bliss in the presence of God. **(Gen. 1:27; 1 Cor. 15:20-23; Rom. 3:23; Rev. 21:1-4; Rev. 21:8)**

ABOUT SALVATION

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures and that all who repent and believe in Him are justified by faith and born again by the Holy Spirit, thereby becoming children of God. This salvation is received by grace through faith in the shed blood of Christ and by this act we are made members of the body of Christ, which is the true church. **(John 1:12; Rom. 3:24-25; 1 Cor. 15:1-4; Eph. 1:7; Eph. 2:8-9)**

(OVER)

ABOUT THE CHURCH

We believe that the church consists of all those who have repented and believed in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. As part of His body the church is called into a covenant relationship with Himself and one another. As part of the family of God the church is called to nurture and love one another, as we are loved and nurtured by Christ. As the temple of God the church is called to be a holy habitation or dwelling of God. As citizens of His kingdom the church is called to be in subjection to Him and, by cooperating together, to be ambassadors for Christ in the world. Finally, as the bride of Christ, the church looks forward to spending eternity with God in heaven. **(Eph. 1:22-23; 1 Tim. 5:1-2; Eph. 2:19-22; 1 Pet. 2:5; Col. 1:13; Rev. 1:9; 2 Cor. 11:2; Rev. 19:6-9; Rev. 21:2)**

ABOUT ORDINANCES

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the triune God, an essential step of obedience. We believe that Christ instituted the Lord's Supper for commemoration of His death. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. **(Matt. 28:18-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26)**

ABOUT LIBERTY

We believe that every human being has direct communion with God and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith; that each church is independent and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority; that therefore, Church and State must be kept separate as having different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from dictation or patronage of the other. **(1 Cor. 4:3-4; Acts. 4:18-19; Rom. 13:1-7; 2 Cor. 5:10)**

ABOUT HEALING

We believe that provision is made in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of the mortal body. Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil are taught in the Scriptures and are privileges for the church in the present age. **(Is. 53:3-5; Matt. 8:16-17; James 5:13-16)**

ABOUT CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

We believe that a Christian should live for the glory of God and the well being of his fellowmen; that his conduct should be blameless before the world; that he should be a faithful steward of his possessions; and that he should seek to realize for himself and others the full stature of maturity in Christ. **(Romans 12; Phil. 2; James 3:13)**

ABOUT CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ will return visibly and gloriously to this earth to be seen of all men as the righteous judge, to receive His saints to Himself, and to establish His kingdom. Those whose faith is in Christ will be saved eternally and will enter into the joy of their Lord, sharing with Him His inheritance in heaven. The unbelieving will be condemned by Him to hell, where eternally they will be punished for their sins under the righteous judgment of God. **(Dan. 12:2; John 5:28-29; Acts 1:10-11; 1 Cor. 15:20-23; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 20:1)**

ABOUT SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is inestimable worth in all its dimension, including pre-born babies, the physical or mentally challenged, and every other stage of condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. **(Gen. 1:26; Ps. 139:13-16; Jer. 1:5)**

ABOUT MARRIAGE

We believe that because God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a biological man and a biological woman, Emmanuel Fellowship will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman. Further, the pastors and staff of Emmanuel Fellowship shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman. Finally, the facilities and property of Emmanuel Fellowship shall only host weddings between one man and one woman. **(Gen. 2:24; Mark 10:6-9)**