

Key Biblical Principles

The CEA is committed to the principle, “No creed but Christ.” Therefore, these Key Biblical Principles are not intended as a test of fellowship, but are simply meant to affirm our belief in key issues of biblical doctrine. We offer this document as a theological framework to help unify our church planting movement under the authority of Christ and His Word, and to advance our efforts to communicate the gospel to the world.

Principles:

I believe in one God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (*Matthew 5:16, 45; 6:1, 4, 8, 9; James 1:17; John 1:1; 14:9; Genesis 1:2; John 4:24; 14:16-20; 2 Peter 1:21*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of all things visible and invisible. (*Genesis 1:1; Acts 17:24-28; Hebrews 11:3*)

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s one and only Son, my one and only Savior (*John 1:14; 1 John 4:9; John 3:16; 2 Peter 3:18*)

Who was born both fully human and fully divine, conceived of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life. (*Matthew 21:11; John 19:19; John 1:14; Romans 5:15-17; Colossians 2:9; 1 John 1:1; Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:26-38*) . . .

Who suffered and was crucified. (*Luke 23:1-46*) . . .

Who died and was buried, and Who rose again bodily from the dead on the third day. (*Luke 23:44, 24:8; John 20:24-29; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8*) . . .

Who ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of the Father (*Luke 22:69; Acts 1:1-9; Colossians 3:1*) . . .

and Who will return to earth to judge both the living and the dead. (*Matthew 24:36-42; John 14:1-3; Acts 1: 10-11; 10:39-42; 1 Peter 4:5*)

I believe in the Holy Spirit Who is a personal and active part of the triune God, (*John 16:5-15; Acts 1:7-8; Romans 8:26-27*)

and Who indwells every Christian. (*1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; 2 Timothy 1:14*)

I believe in the Bible – God’s Holy Word as inspired Scripture. (*Mark 12:36; John 14:26; 16:12-15; Acts 1:16; 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 2 Timothy 3:14-16; 2 Peter 1:20-21*)

I accept the Bible as the final authority for all matters of faith and practice. (*Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 5:18; 24:35; Romans 15:4; Hebrews 4:12*)

I believe that people created by God willfully sin against God and are consequently lost and without hope apart from Jesus Christ. (*Acts 4:12; Romans 3:23*)

I believe that God created the human race male and female and that all conduct with the intent to adopt a gender other than one's birth gender is immoral and therefore sin. (*Gen. 1:27; Deut. 22:5*)

I believe marriage is a lifelong, exclusive relationship between one man and one woman and that all intimate sexual activity outside the marriage relationship, whether heterosexual, homosexual, or otherwise, is immoral and therefore sin. (*Gen. 2:24-25; Ex. 20:14, 17, 22:19; Lev. 18:22-23, 20:13, 15-16; Matt. 19:4-6, 9; Rom. 1:18-31; I Cor. 6:9-10, 15-20; I Tim. 1:8-11; Jude 7*)

I believe that salvation – the forgiveness of sins – cannot be earned, but is given to us only through the blood of Jesus Christ and by God's grace. (*Matthew 26:28; Romans 5:1-11; 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-10; Hebrews 10:19-22; 1 Peter 1:18, 19; 1 John 1:7*)

I believe that we must respond to God by admitting our sin and our need for God's grace (*Romans 3:23; Titus 3:3-7*), **believing and confessing the truth about Jesus** (*Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:9, 10*) **turning away from sin** (*repenting – Luke 24:45-47; Acts 3:19; 17:30*), **trusting Jesus as Savior and Lord** (*Romans 10:11-13; Philippians 2:11*), **and being baptized (immersed) into Christ.** (*Acts 2:38; Romans 6:1-4*)

I believe in the church of Jesus Christ, founded on the Day of Pentecost, consisting of all Christians everywhere. (*Matthew 16:13-18; Acts 2:14-47*)

I affirm the early church's practice of celebrating the Lord's Supper weekly as a proclamation of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. (*Acts 2:42; 20:7, I Corinthians 11:24-30*)

I affirm the principle of Christian stewardship and practice tithing as an essential habit of a fruitful life and ministry. (*Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:8-10; Luke 6:38*)

I believe in the church's mission: making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all of Jesus' commands. (*Matthew 28:18-20*)

I agree with these Key Biblical Principles

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Comments: _____
