



MERIDIAN CHURCH

Affirmation of Faith

The Scriptures:

We believe that the Bible is God's Holy Word; verbally inspired, without error in the original manuscripts, infallible, and sufficient for life and doctrine. **(2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Mark 13:31; John 8:31-32; Acts 20:32)**

The Trinity:

We believe that there is one God, eternally existing as three equally divine persons that know, love, and glorify each other. We believe that the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God; yet The Father is neither the Son nor the Holy Spirit, the Son is neither the Father nor the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit is neither the Father nor the Son. **(Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; John 1:1-3)**

The Father:

We believe that God the Father is an infinite personal spirit. We believe that He is eternal, all-present, all-powerful, and all-knowing. We believe He sovereignly works all things according to His plan. We believe He mercifully sent His Son to ransom sinners from every people group. **(John 4:24; Psalm 90:2; Psalm 193:7-10; Jeremiah 32:17; 1 John 3:20; Isaiah 46:9-10; John 3:16)**

Jesus Christ:

We believe that the Son remaining what He was (God), became what He was not (man). We believe that He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, and performed miracles. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, His bodily resurrection from the dead, His ascension and session at the right hand of the Father, His intercession for His people as great High Priest, and His future return. **(Romans 9:5; John 1:1-2, 14; Matthew 1:18-25; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24; Acts 1:11; Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 9:28)**

The Holy Spirit:

We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. We believe He regenerates sinners and unites them to Christ. We believe He indwells believers, sanctifies them, and seals them to the day of redemption. **(John 14:15-16, 26; 16:8-15; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 1:13-14)**

The Fall:

We believe that in Adam, man who was created in the image of God, fell, and now inherits both Adam's guilt and corruption and is therefore now hostile towards God, dead in his sins, in bondage to sin, and unable to save himself. **(Genesis 1:26-27, Romans 5:12; Romans 3:9-20, 23; Colossians 1:21; John 8:34; Ephesians 2:1-3)**

The Gospel and Salvation:

We believe that the gospel is the good news of what God has done for us in His Son Jesus Christ. We believe that Jesus lived a perfect life of obedience for us and died a penal substitutionary death for our sins. We believe salvation is a gift that comes only by God's grace, and that all who trust in Jesus Christ alone are justified, and are eternally secure, unable to lose their salvation. **(1 Corinthians 15:1-8; Romans 3:21-26; Ephesians 2:8-20)**

The Church, Her Ordinances, and Her Leadership:

We believe that the church is the body of Christ, comprised of all regenerate persons. We believe the local church is to consist of persons baptized upon credible profession of faith covenanting together to be faithful to their Lord Jesus Christ. We believe the Lord gave two ordinances to His church, baptism, and the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christian baptism is the baptism of believers by immersion. We believe a church is to be elder led and deacon served. We believe the office of elder is limited to qualified men. **(Ephesians 1:22-23, 5:25-27; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Hebrews 10:23-25; Matthew 28:19; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Corinthians 14:33-35, 1 Timothy 2:11-12)**

Manhood, Womanhood, and Marriage

We believe that God created human beings, male and female, in His own image with equal dignity and worth but differing gospel-communicating roles, whether single or married. We believe that marriage is the covenant union of one man and one woman before God. We believe that in obedience to the Lord husbands are to reflect Christ by loving leadership and wives are to reflect the church by respectful submission in the Lord. **(Genesis 1:26-27; 2:18-25; Matthew 19:3-12; Ephesians 5:22-33; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; Hebrews 13:4)**