

Countryside Christian Church

Statement of Beliefs

As a Non-Denominational Church, we derive all of our beliefs from the New Testament.

Simple Structure

With Jesus as the owner and head of the church (Ephesians 1:22), we are a free congregation, not ruled by a headquarters, but self-governed leaders with faith and spiritual maturity (1 Timothy 3:1-13). Although we are independent, each local church body is encouraged to fellowship and cooperate with other likeminded churches in missions and benevolence.

Scriptural Beliefs

- That God exists as a trinity –Father, Son, and Spirit (Matthew 28:19-20)
- The miracles and events recorded in the Bible literally happened (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- God created man as a unique spiritual being (Genesis 2:7)
- Sin separates humanity from God (Romans 3:23)
- Jesus was born of a virgin (Luke 1:27)
- Jesus was not just a great moral teacher, but was God in the flesh (John 1:1-3, 1:14)
- Jesus Christ died for everyone (Romans 10:9-10)
- Jesus was resurrected in bodily form from the dead (Acts 2:29-32)
- Jesus is alive and is working in people today through the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38)
- Jesus is coming again (Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)
- All people will be judged by God and assigned to heaven or hell (Revelation 20:12-15)
- Salvation is dependent on a person repenting of sin, accepting Jesus Christ's sacrificial death, confessing Christ as Lord and Savior, and following through with baptism by immersion to become a part of Christ's church (Romans 10:9-10; Acts 2:38).

Positions

1. We are Christ-Centered
 - a. A saving and personal relationship with Jesus is the only requirement for belonging to his church. As His follower, we wear no name but His – Christian (Acts 11:26).
 - b. Christ is our only Creed: He is the One and Only Son of God who died for our sins and rose from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:1-8). He is the only name by which we must be saved (Acts 4:12).
2. We are Bible-Based
 - a. Because the Bible is the inspired Word of God, it serves as our only authority. Our greatest concern with any situation is, "What does the Bible say?" We hold true to this motto: "Where the Scripture speaks, we speak; where the Scripture is silent, we are silent."

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3. We are Unity-Minded
 - a. In Essential Beliefs, Unity: We focus on the foundational and unifying truths of Christianity (Eph. 4:4-6).
 - b. In Nonessential Beliefs, Liberty: Paul tells us in Romans 14:1 to accept those who faith is weak without passing judgment on disputable matters.
 - c. In all things, Love: Jesus gave a new commandment to His disciples and to us as well... “A new command I give to you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” (John 13:34)

Membership

To be a member in this church requires no more or less than what it means to be a Christian – a member of God’s family. The only requirement is a confessed faith in Christ which results in repentance and baptism. Yet that is just the beginning. Immersed believers are encouraged to get involved. Involvement leads to growth. We encourage all to serve, give and grow daily in the walk with the Lord.

Steps to a Right Relationship with God

1. God Loves You
 - a. God created us for, and was us to have, a right relationship with Him now and forever in heaven (John 3:16)
2. Sin Separates Us From God
 - a. God loves us, but hates sin. Everyone who has chosen to disobey God and his commands have chosen to break the bonds of fellowship with God (Isaiah 59:2; Romans 3:23)
3. Jesus Offers A Right Relationship With God
 - a. Our relationship with God is not restored because of anything we do, but on the basis of what Jesus has already done on the cross. Salvation cannot be earned. We can never make up for our sin by good works. (Romans 6:23).
4. You Must Receive Christ
 - a. Salvation is God’s free gift to us, but we must accept it. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ can anyone be saved from the penalty of sin. Those who become Christians in the early church followed the pattern in the following section.

Early Church Pattern

- Believe – The jailer asks Paul and Silas, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved – you and your household.” (Acts 16:30-31)
- Repent – “In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent.” (Acts 17:30)
- Confess – “If you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9)
- Be Baptized – “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 2:38)