

Grace Bible Church

A. FURTHER BELIEFS

Church Ordinances – Baptism and Communion

1. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local Church: baptism and communion. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of our Lord Jesus Christ.
2. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water into the name of the triune God and is performed only once. We believe that baptism follows belief in Christ and does not result in salvation in and of itself.
3. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for commemoration of His death and may be celebrated often.

The Work and Gifts of the Holy Spirit

4. **The Baptism of the Holy Spirit.** We believe and teach that the baptism by or in the Holy Spirit is the experience of all truly born-again Christians at faith. It is not a repeatable or selective experience.
5. **Fruit and Gifts of the Holy Spirit.** We believe every believer is given fruit of the Spirit to live a life led by the Spirit and spiritual gifts to serve others for the common good in the power of the Spirit. No gift signifies His baptism or filling, nor does any gift provide authoritative revelation beyond what has already been revealed in the Holy Scriptures. Life in the Spirit includes trials and does not guarantee physical health, material wealth, nor confirming outward signs such as speaking in tongues, or performing healings or other miracles.

Marriage, Sexuality, and Life

6. Marriage is meant to signify the covenantal love between Christ and His bride the church. We believe in marriage that a wife is to defer to her husband while her husband is to love her with the sacrificial love of Christ. We believe it is inconsistent with Scripture to perform same-sex marriages or unions.
7. We believe that one's self-concept as male or female is a gift from God and is defined by God's holy purpose and created order in the Garden of Eden as revealed in Scripture, and not by the individual. We believe that adopting a transgender, homosexual, or any other sexual self-concept other than the one outlined above is inconsistent with God's holy purposes. We believe that sexual intimacy is a gift that is only to be lived out and practiced within a marriage between one biological man and one biological woman.
8. We believe human life bears God's image and is sacred from conception to death.

Roles of Men and Women

9. We believe in a complementarian position, that while men and women are equal before God, they hold differing roles in the Church. We believe that pastors and elders are required by Scripture to be men.

End Times

10. We believe that Christ will establish a literal one-thousand-year, earthly, Davidic Kingdom prior to the eternal state. We believe the church will be caught up to be with the Lord in the air but acknowledge the timing cannot be definitively determined from Scripture. Pre-, mid- and post-tribulational views will be equally respected.

Financing of the Lord's Work

11. We believe that the normal method of financing the Lord's work is by free will offerings of cheerful believers in systematic, proportionate, and confidential giving of money. Freewill offerings may be accepted at any time, but we do not believe in the collection of money through bazaars, entertainment, or similar methods.

Final Authority for Matters of Belief and Conduct

12. This Statement of Beliefs does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible, as the inspired and infallible Word of God, is the sole and final source of all that we believe.

B. BIBLICAL REFERENCES FOR THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

1. Matthew 28:19-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
2. Matthew 28:19, Acts 2:38, Acts 8:12, 8:36-38, 10:47-48
3. Matthew 26:26-29, 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:23-26
4. Matthew 3:11, Acts 2:38-39, 8:14-17, 10:44-47, 11:15-17, 19:1-6, Ephesians 1:11-14
5. Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Corinthians 12:4-7; 13:8, Romans 8:4-8, Ephesians 4:11-12
6. Ephesians 5:22-33, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9, Leviticus 18:22
7. Genesis 1:27, Matthew 19:4, Mark 10:6, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9, Leviticus 18:22
8. Genesis 1:26-27, Psalm 139:13-16, Jeremiah 1:4-5, Isaiah 44:2, Genesis 9:6
9. Titus 1:5-9, 1 Timothy 3:1-7
10. Philippians 3:20, John 14:1-3, 1 Corinthians 15:51-52, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Titus 2:11-14, Matthew 24:15-25, 24:29-31, 24:42-46, 2 Timothy 3:1-5, 4:1-3, Acts 15:15-17, Ezekiel 37:21-28, Romans 11:25-27, Revelation 20:1-3, Isaiah 11:1-10
11. 2 Corinthians 9:7, 1 Corinthians 16:2, Malachi 3:8-10
12. John 5:39, 2 Timothy 3:15-17, Jude 1:3, 2 Peter 1:3