

# **What Hope Believes**

#### ...about GOD

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three personalities: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

# ...about JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return to earth to reign as King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

#### ...about the HOLY SPIRIT

We believe the only way possible to live the Christian Life is by God's power within us. All believers receive the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of God) when they receive Jesus Christ as Lord of their lives at salvation. However, believers are encouraged to seek the baptism in the Holy Spirit and to seek a daily dependence on God's Spirit to enable us to do what is right, and to obey God's command to "be filled with the Spirit."

#### ...about the BIBLE

The Bible is God's Word to us. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is the truth without any mixture of error.

## ...about SALVATION

Salvation is God's free gift to us, but we must accept it. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. When we repent of sin, confess Jesus as Lord, and turn away from our self-ruled life, we are saved.

## ...about DIVINE HEALING

Through the centuries since the time of the apostles, there have been individuals who had faith in God for the healing of their bodies, and where New Testament faith has been found, New Testament miracles have been demonstrated in the name of Jesus Christ. We believe Jesus paid the price for divine healing through the atonement...and with His stripes, we are healed.

## ...about the BLESSED HOPE

The blessed hope of the church is the rapture or the "catching away" of the church. The Bible teaches that at the time of the rapture of the church, living Christians will be changed; those whom have died in Christ will be raised in glory; all Christians will forever be with the Lord; we should be comforted with this truth.

#### ...about ETERNITY

People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.

#### ...about GENDER AND MARRIAGE

We believe God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct and complementary genders together most effectively reflect the image and nature of God. (Genesis 1:26-27)

We believe that Marriage has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a monogamous union as defined in Scripture (Genesis 2:18-25, Matthew 19:4-6).



# What Hope Values

#### We VALUE...

every person, Christian and non-Christian alike, understanding their significance to God and to His Kingdom.

#### We VALUE...

"doing church as a team." It is God's design for effective ministry.

## We VALUE...

a simple presentation of Jesus Christ in creative ways, confident it will impact and transform lives.

# We VALUE...

a lifestyle of consistent spiritual growth with honest accountability.

## We VALUE...

the fact that every member is a minister and has been given gifts to be discovered, developed, and deployed.

## We VALUE...

our commitment to giving God our very best.