

## **BridgePoint Church - Articles of Faith**

### **What We Believe**

#### **1. INSPIRATION OF SCRIPTURE**

We believe in the divine authority of the Scripture. The Old and New Testament of the Bible is the supreme and final authority in faith and life. It is written by God using holy men through the power of the Holy Spirit and is totally flawless in its original writings. All subsequent statements depend on this one.

**II Timothy 3:16; I Peter 1:25; II Peter 1:21**

#### **2. TRINITY**

We believe in one God existing eternally in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Matthew 28:19; II Corinthians 3:14**

#### **3. INCARNATION**

We believe that Jesus Christ is God embodied. He is true God and true man. He took on human form when He was brought about by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

**Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:35; John 1:1, 14; I Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 2:9**

#### **4. CREATION**

**A)** We believe that God created the heavens and the earth and the creation was literal and actual. We believe that God created man in His image and gave man the breath of life.

**Genesis 1:1, 26, 27; Genesis 2:7, 21, 23**

**B)** We believe in the Genesis account of creation, and we accept it literally and not figuratively. We believe that all animal and vegetable life was made directly by God and that He ordained that each species should bring forth life only "after their kind." We believe that God created man, directly in His own image and that man did not evolve through interminable periods of time from lower to higher forms.

**Genesis 1:1, 31; Genesis 2:7; John 1:3; Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:16, 17; Hebrews 11:3**

#### **5. FALL OF MAN**

We believe that man was created in the image of God, but by voluntary transgression fell from his sinless and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not only by constraint, but of choice and therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse. Aside from approaching God's grace through Jesus Christ he is eternally damned.

**Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 1:18-32; Romans 5:10-19**

## **6. REDEMPTION**

We believe that the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection from the dead provide the only grounds for justification and salvation for all who believe. Only those who receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit and thus become children of God.

**John 1:12; Romans 4:24; I Corinthians 15:3-4; Hebrews 7:25; I John 1:7; Romans 4:24-5:2**

## **7. NEW BIRTH**

We believe that in the new birth, one dead in sins is born again when he receives Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. He is then made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God. The Holy Spirit bears witness to the new birth.

**John 3; John 1:12; Romans 8; Ephesians 2:1**

## **8. RESURRECTION**

We believe in the actual bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ and the resurrection of the saints for an eternity with Jesus and the resurrection of the unsaved to judgment and eternal damnation.

**Matthew 28:5-7; John 5:28; John 20:27-28; I Corinthians 15:4, 20-23, 51-57; Revelation 20:5-6, 11-15**

## **9. BAPTISM**

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of the believer in water; in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, for the purpose of showing forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life. We further believe that in scriptural order, baptism precedes the privileges of local church membership and in the public recognition of the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

**Matthew 28:19; Matthew 3:13-17; Acts 2:41-42; Acts 8:35-38; Romans 6:3-5**

## **10. MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

We believe in the divine work of the Holy Spirit in that He convicts of sins and that He bears witness to the church of the gospel in the hearts of men. We further believe that He is the Agent in the New birth in that He baptizes every believer in to the body of Christ at the moment of conversion and that He indwells, seals, guides, teaches, sanctifies, and witnesses to the believer. We believe that the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance) is the evidence of His indwelling presence and that He enables the believer to perform as an effective member of the body of Christ.

**Mark 1:8; Luke 24:49; John 3:5-6; John 15:26-27; John 16:7-11; John 16:13-14; John 14:26; Romans 8:16; Romans 8:26-27; Romans 15:16; I Corinthians 6:11; I Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 1:13; Ephesians 4:30**

## **11. CHURCH AND ITS MISSION**

We believe that the true church is made up of all those persons who have been born of the Spirit, into the body of Christ. We believe that God has ordained that these "members of the body" organized into local congregations for the fellowship of the gospel and to observe the ordinances of Christ. We believe the primary mission of the church is found in the great commission: First to make individual disciples; second, to baptize them; third, to teach and instruct as He has commanded and to spread the gospel to all points of the world through giving of lives and money. We do not believe in the reversal of this order. We hold that the local church has the absolute right of self-government and that the one and only ultimate authority is Christ.

**Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:41-47; Ephesians 5:23-27; Colossians 1:18; I Peter 5:1-4**

## **12. SECOND COMING OF CHRIST**

We believe in the personal pre-millennial and imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, both for the rapture of the church, and following the tribulation period to set up His kingdom here on earth.

**John 14:3; Acts 1:11; I Corinthians 15:51-57; I Thessalonians 4:16-18; Hebrew 9:28; Revelations 20:1-6**