



[www.crossroadsbenson.com](http://www.crossroadsbenson.com)

# Starting Point

## What is a church?

The Church: Not “this” church or “a” church but “the” church. “The church” is not a building but a worldwide body of believers. The church is perceived as both universal and local, invisible as well as visible. The church, and there is only one, is the church established by Jesus Christ on the earth for the good of all men. The church cannot and will never fail. Crossroads is an extension of the church through a local body of gathered believers.

Definition of a local church: “The church is a group of regenerated believers who organize under biblically qualified leadership, participate in preaching and worship, perform the ordinances of baptism and Communion, are unified by the Spirit, disciplined for holiness, obey the Great Commandment to love, and work together to fulfill the Great Commission.” See Acts 2:37-47. (Mark Driscoll and Gerry Breshears, Vintage Church: “Timeless Truths and Timely Methods” (Wheaton Il.:Crossway,2008),38)

Who we are: A non-denominational group of believers whose doctrine aligns with Southern Baptists. (See Baptist Faith and Message 2000 for details.)

Who we are not: We choose to support the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention, but we do not call ourselves Southern Baptists, we are Christians.

## Our History

Crossroads was founded by Pastor Scott Betts and a core team of six others. Scott had a vision for a church that reached out to those who were not being reached by traditional churches. The name Crossroads was given to Scott in 2007, while on his twentieth wedding anniversary with Tanya. The scriptural confirmation is found in Proverbs 8:1-4 (ESV) which says: “Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice? On the heights beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; beside the gates, in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud: To you O men I call, and my cry is to the children of man.” Crossroads Church began small weekly meetings with the core group in 2009. These first meetings were held in homes and at the local park in Benson. From there a very practical building, in a great in-town location, became available and Sunday services began on August 2, 2009.

Scott has previously served in various ministerial positions and has a Masters Degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest NC. He is the Lead and Preaching Pastor at Crossroads and seeks to connect with people who are at all stages of spiritual maturity. He wants to make the Gospel understandable and relevant to everyone that attends. The Bible is the centerpiece for everything that is done at Crossroads, because God’s Word is the source of revelation in the life of believers and through the Holy Spirit, draws others to believe in and live for Christ.

## Purpose: Why are we here?

Purpose: "We exist to glorify God." We were created by God and we exist to glorify Him with our lives.

## Vision: What are we going to do?

Vision: *Change the Culture* - Not by force but by attraction and compassion. Our world is full of brokenness and hopelessness. Crossroads exists to show others there is real hope for real change and hope for their lives.

## Mission: How are we going to do it?

Mission: "By leading people to life in Jesus, **together**"

Accomplishing our mission works itself out for us in two ways:

- **Reaching:** reaching means we want the front doors of our gathering to be as wide as possible to reach as many as we can.
- **Growing:** growing means we want the rear exits to be narrow because people are actually connecting and growing in their relationship with Jesus and others.

This means we will focus on having an engaging weekend experience every Sunday in an effort to reach others and at the same time focus on providing them effective opportunities for growth and service.

## Core Values: What is important to us?

**People:** God loves people, we love people, God serves people, and we serve people.

**Life-change:** Heart transformation through the Gospel is our ultimate goal.

**Power:** We desire for the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to be evident in all we do.

**Authority:** Scripture is our guide for life and practice.

**Worship:** We express worship to God through music, preaching, teaching, prayer, service and generosity.

**Integrity:** We strive and encourage one another to live what we teach and preach.

**Growth:** Spiritual growth for the individual, relational growth with others, and numerical growth for the Kingdom.

**Excellence:** We seek to do all things with a high level of quality.

## What We Believe: What guides us?

**THE BIBLE:** The Bible is God's Word to all men. 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. It is without error. (Ps. 19:7-10; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; Heb. 4:12; 2 Peter 1:19-21)

**GOD:** God is the one and only Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

- **GOD THE FATHER:** God the Father is the Lord of all things, over the universe and over the flow of history. He is the Father of all who are saved through faith in Jesus Christ, but is loving and fatherly in his attitude toward all men. (Gen. 1:1; Ex. 20:1.; 1 Cor. 8:6; Gal. 4:6; Eph. 4:6)

**GOD THE SON:** Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and has always existed with the Father. Jesus became a man by being born of a virgin through the power of the Holy Spirit. He lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all men by dying on a cross. He rose from the dead after three days to show forever His power over sin and death. He went up to Heaven and will return again to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. (*John 1:1-18; Colossians 1:15-23*)

**GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT:** The Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity of God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every believer from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. (*John 16:7-14; Ephesians 1:13-14*)

**MAN:** Man is made in the image of God to display God's glory and to live in relationship with God forever. Man became alienated from God through disobedience, and sin entered the whole world. As a result, all human beings are born with a sinful nature and choose to sin against God. Man cannot repair his relationship with God through his own efforts. He needs a Rescuer. (*Gen. 1:26-30; Rom. 1:19-32; 3:10-18, 23-24*)

**ETERNITY:** Man was created to exist forever. He will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or in union with God, through forgiveness and salvation. When you die, you will either spend eternal union with God in heaven or eternal separation from God in Hell. (*Matt. 16:27; 1 Thess. 4:14-18; 2 Thess. 1:7.*)

**SALVATION:** Salvation is a gift from God to man by His grace alone. Man can never make up for his sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can man be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith. (*Rom. 1:16-18; 3:23-25, 5:8-10; 6:1-23*)

**ETERNAL SECURITY:** Because God gives man eternal life through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. (*Eph. 1:4-23; 2:1-10; Col. 1:12-14; 2 Tim. 1:12*)

**THE FAMILY:** God has set up the family as the foundation of society. Marriage is designed by God as a covenant relationship between a man and a woman for a lifetime. Men are called to be Christ-like servant leaders of their home, and children are a blessing from the Lord. They are to be nurtured and taught to walk in an obedient relationship with the Lord. (*Eph. 5:21-33; Deut. 6:4-9*)

For a more detailed description of our statement of beliefs, please see The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 in the appendix at the end of this booklet.

## **Our Structure: How do we make it happen?**

### **Biblical Offices**

*The New Testament establishes two offices in the church led by men:*

**Pastors/Elders** - Scripture uses overseer, bishop, elder and pastor as interchangeable and synonymous terms. The apostolic succession ended in the early years of the church. Scripture also describes this office with plurality in the local church. Their duties are primarily to teach, preach and lead the church in the direction they believe God would have it go. (*1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9*)

**Deacons** - Deacons are assistants to the pastors and are servants of the church charged to assist in keeping our church body healthy. They are described as ministering to the local body. (*1 Timothy 3:8-13*)

### **Organizational Roles**

**Volunteers** - The majority of everything we do is done by volunteers, people just like you. Volunteers have the opportunity to operate as Directors, Coordinators, Ministry Leaders and on Teams determined by their calling and giftedness.

**Staff** - As needed, we hire staff because we realize the time commitment and demands are too much for a volunteer's schedule. In this case, staff are managed by the Pastor/Elder team.

# Connect, Grow, Serve

We use these three actions to describe movement within our church.

## Connect

### Salvation

“Who desires all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.” 1 Timothy 2:4

It is God’s desire for all people to be saved. When we realize that we are all helpless sinners in desperate need of forgiveness for our sin, Scripture informs us that Jesus is God’s plan to save us. When we believe that Jesus is the only sinless sacrifice whose shed blood has the ability to turn God’s wrath from us, our faith in Him is enabled. Our faith leads us to repent of our sin and receive God’s free gift of salvation. It is totally an act of the grace of God.

### Baptism

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19

After a person accepts Christ’s salvation, Scripture shows us that baptism is the next step in their faith walk. Baptism is the act of being immersed in water as a public confession of faith in Jesus Christ. It’s a time for the believer to show that they have been saved, and to tell the church about the miracle that has happened in their lives. It also serves as an awesome symbol, both showing how one is cleansed from sin and displaying Christ’s death and resurrection in being buried underwater and raised up from the water just as Christ was raised from the dead. Baptism does not in any way have saving power, but is taught by Christ as a step of obedience after salvation. (Matthew 28:18-20) A more complete statement concerning our beliefs on baptism can be found on our website at [www.crossroadsbenson.com](http://www.crossroadsbenson.com).

### Member/Partnership

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many are one body, so it is with Christ.” 1 Corinthians 12:12

We view membership as a partnership; as the body of Christ we are partnering together with Jesus to reach the world for Him. As members of the body we attend regularly, serve through our various talents, and give faithfully to the vision and mission of the church. Members have the opportunity to serve as gifted at higher levels within the leadership of the church and enjoy benefits not offered to regular attenders. For more information about how to become a member see the MEMBERSHIP COVENANT portion of this booklet on the following pages.

# Grow

## Individual Growth

Individual growth happens as you determine to seek God's will for your life. This begins with your own personal time in God's Word and in prayer. If you want to grow in your faith there is no doubt that you will, as you begin to pursue God with your life. You can find resources to help you such as Bible reading plans, books, etc., at [www.crossroadsbenson.com](http://www.crossroadsbenson.com). If you have further questions about growth feel free to contact one of the pastors. We also want to encourage you to plug in to a group and begin the journey with others just like you.

## Growth in Community

### Connect Groups

Connect groups at Crossroads are all about growing in your relationship with Christ by building intentional, lasting, meaningful relationships with other believers which have the same goal. Connect Groups are actively forming all the time. You can find out more about connect groups by visiting [crossroadsbenson.com/connect-groups](http://crossroadsbenson.com/connect-groups)

### Men's and Women's Ministries

We offer opportunities for men and women to gather with other men and women in order to build relationships and to strengthen our faith. There will be a variety of meeting times, places and events throughout the year. We would love to have you be a part.

### Crossroads Kids Ministry

We offer a dynamic children's ministry designed to help your children grow in their relationship with God and others. We currently use a curriculum that introduces the children to the idea of small group sharing and large group worship. Our goal is not to replace your responsibility as a parent, but to come along beside you and help you lead your children to life in Jesus. Our classes include nursery, toddlers, special needs, preschool, and K-4th grade. Each ministry is designed to "lead your children to life in Jesus" on their level.

### FUSE Student Ministry

Our Student Ministry at Crossroads is called FUSE. We are very intentional about leading our students 5th through 12th grade to life in Jesus. We realize that the culture heavily influences our kids and we want to stand up, unashamedly, and announce to them that there is a better way. Our students come together on Wednesday nights for a time of worship and biblical preaching designed to reach them where they are. We also provide small group opportunities for our students throughout the year, where we connect students with other students and leaders with whom they can talk with, pray with, and simply "do life" with.

# Serve

*We see serving as joining a team. Teamwork is what genuinely takes the blessings of God He has given us and puts them to use in a place where encouragement and support are always present. You do not have to be a member of Crossroads to serve in most areas, though membership is strongly encouraged.*

## Join the Team

### First Impressions Team

First impressions begins when people first pull up in our parking lot. As they venture into our facility they are exposed to a host of options and we want to do the very best job possible to serve them. This is where greeters, ushers, prayer team, parking attendants, guest services and countless other services come in to play.

### Worship Team

If you are musically inclined whether you sing or play an instrument or both we would love to hear from you. We have a variety of opportunities for you to consider.

### KIDS Team

We love your KIDS! KIDS are an amazing and special group we realize pouring into will reap benefits for years to come. Whether you like rocking babies, teaching a pre-K- 4th or special needs class or acting in a presentation we have a place for you.

### Students Team

Our Student Ministry is called FUSE and is one of the largest in the county. The reason is because we genuinely care about our students and they know it. Loving them where they are and giving them the attention they need to succeed is part of the heartbeat of Crossroads. There are numerous opportunities for you here and we know you'll love it.

### Security Team

Security and Safety are priority one at Crossroads. We are always interested in individuals who are concerned like we are for the well-being of their fellow worshippers. Opportunities for Sundays, Wednesday nights and special events are chances for you to be part of a we'll organized and trained team.

### Production Team

Technology is a huge part of the world today and that is no less true for us. We desire to maximize our technology and embrace the creativity God has given us for His glory. Whether you are into sound, video, programming, social media, graphic design, videography, photography or just love being a part of the behind the scenes action we have a place for you.

For more information or if you'd like to sign up to serve go to [www.crossroadsbenson.com](http://www.crossroadsbenson.com).

# Membership

## Membership Requirements:

1. Affirmation of Salvation
2. Baptized by immersion after conversion
3. Completion of Starting Point Class
4. Membership Application and meet with a pastor

Turn your completed form in to our [Guest Services Desk](#).

## Membership Agreement:

### **Obligations of Crossroads Church to its Members**

- We covenant that our elders and deacons will meet the criteria assigned to them in Scripture. (1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4)
- We covenant that our leaders will strive to seek God's will by following Scripture and the Holy Spirit to the best of our ability. (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-4)
- We covenant to care for and pray for the church. (1 Corinthians 12:25; 2 Thessalonians 1:11; Galatians 6:10).
- We covenant to help you grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus and equip you for service. (Matthew 28:16-20; Ephesians 4:11-16 Colossians 1:28; James 5:14; 1 Peter 5:1-4).
- We covenant to provide teaching and counsel from the whole of Scripture. (Acts 20:27-28; 1 Timothy 4:16; 2 Timothy 4:1-5; Titus 2:1).
- We covenant to be on guard against false teachers. (Matthew 7:15; Acts 20:28-31; 1 Timothy 1:3-7; 1 John 4:1).
- We covenant to graciously and scripturally exercise church discipline when necessary. (Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5; Galatians 6:1; James 5:19-20).

### **Obligations of a Member to Crossroads Church**

- I agree with the Crossroads doctrinal statement as expressed in the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 and will not be divisive to its teachings.
- I covenant to submit to Scripture as the final source on all issues of life and faith. (Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21).
- I will seek to maintain a close relationship to the Lord Jesus through regular Bible reading, prayer and fellowship with other believers. (Luke 18:1; Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Ephesians 5:1-21; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22).
- I will strive to participate weekly in the gathered worship at Crossroads and continue to pursue growth in my spiritual life through opportunities offered. (Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:23-25; Titus 3:14).

- I will be a good steward of the resources God has blessed me with by giving of my time, talents and treasures. I will give generously, faithfully, cheerfully. (Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 1 Peter 4:10-11).
- I agree to submit to the biblical pattern of church discipline should the need ever arise. (Psalm 141:5; Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; Hebrews 12:5-11).
- I covenant by God's grace through the power of the Holy Spirit, to walk in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:13-16, 4:1-3). Believers should strive to put certain attitudes and actions to death, while stirring and stimulating love and good deeds through the Spirit. Below are a few examples of actions addressed in the Scriptures:
  - I will practice biblical sexual purity. This means abstinence before marriage and complete fidelity within heterosexual and monogamous marriage if married. Regardless of my marital status, I will pursue purity and abstain from any form of sexual immorality, including adultery, premarital sex, cohabitation, and pornography (Romans 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 6:15-20, 10:8; Ephesians 5:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4).
  - I will seek to preserve the gift of marriage and agree to walk through the steps of marriage reconciliation before pursuing divorce from my spouse. (Matthew 19:1-12; Mark 10:1-12; Luke 16:18; 1 Corinthians 7:10-11)  
**For the role of the church in the process of divorce, see Paul's concern for the resolution of legal matters within the assembly of the church in 1 Corinthians 6.**
  - I will refrain from illegal drug use, drunkenness, gossip and other sinful behavior as the Bible dictates (Romans 1:28-32, 13:13; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:18; James 3:3-18).

### **Membership privileges**

1. Members age 16+ will be allowed to vote on all issues brought before the church.
2. Members will receive priority in the areas of care and counseling.
3. Members will receive priority on the use of facilities for weddings, funerals and other approved activities.
4. Members will have the opportunity to lead and teach as gifted.

If you are interested on becoming a member of Crossroads, fill out the Membership form in the back of the booklet and turn it in to our Guest Services Desk.

# Appendix

## Baptist Faith & Message 2000

### I. The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19; Joshua 8:34; Psalms 19:7-10; 119:11,89,105,140; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1-32; Matthew 5:17-18; 22:29; Luke 21:33; 24:44-46; John 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17; Acts 2:16ff.; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 16:25-26; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

### II. God

There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

#### A. *God the Father*

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; 15:11ff.; 20:1ff.; Leviticus 22:2; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 43:3,15; 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; 17:13; Matthew 6:9ff.; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6-13; 17:1-8; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6; 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7.

#### B. *God the Son*

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He hon-

ored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

Genesis 18:1ff.; Psalms 2:7ff.; 110:1ff.; Isaiah 7:14; 53; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16,27; 17:5; 27; 28:1-6,19; Mark 1:1; 3:11; Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; 24:46; John 1:1-18,29; 10:30,38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:7-11; 16:15-16,28; 17:1-5, 21-22; 20:1-20,28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5,20; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3,34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2:2; 8:6; 15:1-8,24-28; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 7:14-28; 9:12-15,24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 1:7-9; 3:2; 4:14-15; 5:9; 2 John 7-9; Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.

### *C. God the Holy Spirit*

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Saviour, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

Genesis 1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalms 51:11; 139:7ff.; Isaiah 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28-32; 28:19; Mark 1:10,12; Luke 1:35; 4:1,18-19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49; John 4:24; 14:16-17,26; 15:26; 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4,38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17,39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11,14-16,26-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11,13; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:14; 3:16; Hebrews 9:8,14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13; 5:6-7; Revelation 1:10; 22:17.

## **III. Man**

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

Genesis 1:26-30; 2:5,7,18-22; 3; 9:6; Psalms 1; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17:5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:26-31; Romans 1:19-32; 3:10-18,23; 5:6,12,19; 6:6; 7:14-25; 8:14-18,29; 1 Corinthians 1:21-31; 15:19,21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22; Colossians 1:21-22; 3:9-11.

#### **IV. Salvation**

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

A. Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace.

Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Saviour.

B. Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.

C. Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.

D. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.

#### **V. God's Purpose of Grace**

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach

on the cause of Christ and temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-8; 1 Samuel 8:4-7,19-22; Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31ff.; Matthew 16:18-19; 21:28-45; 24:22,31; 25:34; Luke 1:68-79; 2:29-32; 19:41-44; 24:44-48; John 1:12-14; 3:16; 5:24; 6:44-45,65; 10:27-29; 15:16; 17:6,12,17-18; Acts 20:32; Romans 5:9-10; 8:28-39; 10:12-15; 11:5-7,26-36; 1 Corinthians 1:1-2; 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:4-23; 2:1-10; 3:1-11; Colossians 1:12-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; 2 Timothy 1:12; 2:10,19; Hebrews 11:39-12:2; James 1:12; 1 Peter 1:2-5,13; 2:4-10; 1 John 1:7-9; 2:19; 3:2.

## **VI. The Church**

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.

Matthew 16:15-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-42,47; 5:11-14; 6:3-6; 13:1-3; 14:23,27; 15:1-30; 16:5; 20:28; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; 5:4-5; 7:17; 9:13-14; 12; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11,21; 5:22-32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 2:9-14; 3:1-15; 4:14; Hebrews 11:39-40; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Revelation 2-3; 21:2-3.

## **VII. Baptism and the Lord's Supper**

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.

Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16,21; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12.

## **VIII. The Lord's Day**

The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord's Day should be commensurate with the Christian's

conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew 12:1-12; 28:1ff.; Mark 2:27-28; 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-3,33-36; John 4:21-24; 20:1,19-28; Acts 20:7; Romans 14:5-10; I Corinthians 16:1-2; Colossians 2:16; 3:16; Revelation 1:10.

## **IX. The Kingdom**

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King. Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.

Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 9:6-7; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Matthew 3:2; 4:8-10,23; 12:25-28; 13:1-52; 25:31-46; 26:29; Mark 1:14-15; 9:1; Luke 4:43; 8:1; 9:2; 12:31-32; 17:20-21; 23:42; John 3:3; 18:36; Acts 1:6-7; 17:22-31; Romans 5:17; 8:19; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 11:10,16; 12:28; 1 Peter 2:4-10; 4:13; Revelation 1:6,9; 5:10; 11:15; 21-22.

## **X. Last Things**

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

Isaiah 2:4; 11:9; Matthew 16:27; 18:8-9; 19:28; 24:27,30,36,44; 25:31-46; 26:64; Mark 8:38; 9:43-48; Luke 12:40,48; 16:19-26; 17:22-37; 21:27-28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 17:31; Romans 14:10; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 15:24-28,35-58; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Philippians 3:20-21; Colossians 1:5; 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 5:1ff.; 2 Thessalonians 1:7ff.; 2; 1 Timothy 6:14; 2 Timothy 4:1,8; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 9:27-28; James 5:8; 2 Peter 3:7ff.; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14; Revelation 1:18; 3:11; 20:1-22:13.

## **XI. Evangelism and Missions**

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:18-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8,16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40;

10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39-12:2; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelation 22:17.

## **XII. Education**

Christianity is the faith of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ abide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is, therefore, a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. Moreover, the cause of education in the Kingdom of Christ is co-ordinate with the causes of missions and general benevolence, and should receive along with these the liberal support of the churches. An adequate system of Christian education is necessary to a complete spiritual program for Christ's people.

In Christian education there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. Freedom in any orderly relationship of human life is always limited and never absolute. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college, or seminary is limited by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

Deuteronomy 4:1,5,9,14; 6:1-10; 31:12-13; Nehemiah 8:1-8; Job 28:28; Psalms 19:7ff.; 119:11; Proverbs 3:13ff.; 4:1-10; 8:1-7,11; 15:14; Ecclesiastes 7:19; Matthew 5:2; 7:24ff.; 28:19-20; Luke 2:40; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Ephesians 4:11-16; Philippians 4:8; Colossians 2:3,8-9; 1 Timothy 1:3-7; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:14-17; Hebrews 5:12-6:3; James 1:5; 3:17.

## **XIII. Stewardship**

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

Genesis 14:20; Leviticus 27:30-32; Deuteronomy 8:18; Malachi 3:8-12; Matthew 6:1-4,19-21; 19:21; 23:23; 25:14-29; Luke 12:16-21,42; 16:1-13; Acts 2:44-47; 5:1-11; 17:24-25; 20:35; Romans 6:6-22; 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 6:19-20; 12; 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 12:15; Philippians 4:10-19; 1 Peter 1:18-19.

## **XIV. Cooperation**

Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable between the various Christian denominations, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such

cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.

Exodus 17:12; 18:17ff.; Judges 7:21; Ezra 1:3-4; 2:68-69; 5:14-15; Nehemiah 4; 8:1-5; Matthew 10:5-15; 20:1-16; 22:1-10; 28:19-20; Mark 2:3; Luke 10:1ff.; Acts 1:13-14; 2:1ff.; 4:31-37; 13:2-3; 15:1-35; 1 Corinthians 1:10-17; 3:5-15; 12; 2 Corinthians 8-9; Galatians 1:6-10; Ephesians 4:1-16; Philippians 1:15-18.

## **XV. The Christian and the Social Order**

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.

Exodus 20:3-17; Leviticus 6:2-5; Deuteronomy 10:12; 27:17; Psalm 101:5; Micah 6:8; Zechariah 8:16; Matthew 5:13-16, 43-48; 22:36-40; 25:35; Mark 1:29-34; 2:3ff.; 10:21; Luke 4:18-21; 10:27-37; 20:25; John 15:12; 17:15; Romans 12-14; 1 Corinthians 5:9-10; 6:1-7; 7:20-24; 10:23-11:1; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; Philemon; James 1:27; 2:8.

## **XVI. Peace and War**

It is the duty of Christians to seek peace with all men on principles of righteousness. In accordance with the spirit and teachings of Christ they should do all in their power to put an end to war.

The true remedy for the war spirit is the gospel of our Lord. The supreme need of the world is the acceptance of His teachings in all the affairs of men and nations, and the practical application of His law of love. Christian people throughout the world should pray for the reign of the Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 2:4; Matthew 5:9, 38-48; 6:33; 26:52; Luke 22:36, 38; Romans 12:18-19; 13:1-7; 14:19; Hebrews 12:14; James 4:1-2.

## **XVII. Religious Liberty**

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penal-

ties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power.

Genesis 1:27; 2:7; Matthew 6:6-7,24; 16:26; 22:21; John 8:36; Acts 4:19-20; Romans 6:1-2; 13:1-7; Galatians 5:1,13; Philippians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:1-2; James 4:12; 1 Peter 2:12-17; 3:11-17; 4:12-19.

## **XVIII. The Family**

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; 127; 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 12:4; 13:24; 14:1; 17:6; 18:22; 22:6,15; 23:13-14; 24:3; 29:15,17; 31:10-31; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 5:8,14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7.

# Notes

# Notes

# Thank You

Thank you for caring enough to spend your time with us today. Our prayer is that Crossroads becomes the right place for you and your family. If that is not the case, we understand and are certainly not offended. Our desire is that your relationship with Jesus grows stronger no matter where you regularly attend. Know that whether you plug in or not you are always welcome to attend with us.

For more information about Crossroads checkout our website at [www.crossroadsbenson.com](http://www.crossroadsbenson.com).

## Pastors & Deacons

### **Scott Betts**

Lead & Preaching Pastor  
s.betts@crossroadsbenson.com

### **Kris Romito**

Family Life Pastor  
k.romito@crossroadsbenson.com

### **Joe Bias**

Deacon  
j.bias@crossroadsbenson.com

### **Bobby Knowles**

Deacon  
b.knowles@crossroadsbenson.com

### **TJ Bass**

Deacon  
t.bass@crossroadsbenson.com

### **Josh Whitney**

Deacon  
j.whitney@crossroadsbenson.com

### **Craig Hardin**

Deacon  
c.hardin@crossroadsbenson.com

## Next Steps

Whether your next step is to establish a relationship with Jesus, be baptized, become a member, join a growth opportunity or serve in some capacity, we want to hear from you.