

PERSONAL STATEMENT OF FAITH

At your cohort meeting October 6th or 8th, you will write out a personal statement of faith for the following categories. The goal is to thoughtfully articulate in a few sentences what you believe and how Scripture speaks to that area.

1) Scripture

- What do you believe about the Bible?
- Is it inspired, trustworthy, and sufficient?
- How should it shape your life?

2) God

- What do you believe about who God is?
- His character, attributes, sovereignty, holiness, love, etc.

3) The Trinity

- What do you believe about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
- How do the three persons relate to one another?

4) Jesus Christ

- Who is Jesus?
- His deity and humanity
- His birth, sinless life, death, resurrection, ascension, and return

5) The Holy Spirit

- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- His role in salvation, sanctification, guidance, spiritual gifts, and the life of a believer

6) Humanity and Sin

- What do you believe about human nature?
- What is sin?
- What happened as a result of the Fall?
- Why do people need salvation?

7) Salvation

- How is someone saved?
- Grace, faith, repentance, justification, sanctification
- What does it mean to be saved?

8) The Church

- What is the Church?
- Why does the Church exist?
- What does biblical community look like?
- What is the believer's responsibility toward the local church?

9) Baptism and Communion

- What do you believe about the sacraments?
- Why do Christians practice them?
- What do they communicate about the gospel?

10) The Return of Christ

- What do you believe about Jesus' return?

11) Eternity

- What happens to someone who dies in Christ?
- What do you believe about the eternal destiny of those who reject Christ?

12) Marriage and Sexuality

- What do you believe about God's design for marriage, sex, and human relationships?

STUDY IDEAS:

- Read through some different church statement of faiths to get an idea of how they're generally written. Mark in green things you strongly agree with, in yellow things you have questions about, and in red things you disagree with or don't understand.
- Have a friend give you a category and you verbally articulate what you believe.
- Before coming to the cohort meeting on Oct 6th or 8th, create a running document with each category and answer "What do I currently believe about this?" and "What Scriptures lead me to this conclusion?"
- Look for verses with <https://www.openbible.info/topics/>
- Bring questions to your cohort meetings and take notes.