

FBC Olds - Statement of Faith – Core Beliefs

A. Bible

We believe the Bible is God's written revelation to man. It is inerrant in the original manuscripts, it comprises the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, and it is inspired by God in every word. It is infallible and it is the supreme and final authority in all matters of faith and practice.

2 Tim 3:16-17, Ps 19:7-11, Jn 10:35, Prov 30:5, Num 23:19, 2 Pet 1:20-21, 2 Pet 1:3

B. Trinity

We believe in one God, revealed in the scriptures, creator of all, holy, sovereign, eternal, existing in three equal and distinct persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Gen 1:1, Jn 1:1-3, Jn 10:30, 1 Pet 1:15-16, 1 Tim 6:15, Jn 8:58, Jn 4:24, Deut 6:4, Matt 3:16-17

C. God the Father

We believe that God the Father exists eternally as the first Person of the Trinity and reigns supreme over His creation and governs all things by His providence for His good purpose.

Eph 4:6, Gen 1:1, Ex 3:14, Isa 45:5-7, Isa 46:8-10, Dan 4:3, Matt 6:31-33, Eph 1:3-4

D. God the Son

We believe that Christ Jesus our Lord existed eternally with the Father in pre-incarnate glory, that He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and that He was born of the virgin Mary as fully God and fully man. We believe in His sinless life, atoning death, bodily resurrection, triumphant ascension, and personal return. He is the only mediator between God and man.

Jn 1:1-3, Jn 10:38, Jn 14:6-7, Isa 7:14, Gal 4:4-5, 1 Tim 3:16, Heb 9:24, 1 Cor 15:20-23, 1 Jn 2:1-2, Phil 2:5-11, 1 Tim 2:5, Heb 12:2

E. God the Holy Spirit

We believe in the eternal Person of the Holy Spirit, His indwelling of all believers, His work of convicting, regenerating, and sanctifying the believer, and in His ministry to produce His fruit and gifts within the Church.

Jn 14:16-17, Jn 14:26, Jn 15:26, Rom 8:26, Heb 2:4, Ps 139:7-8, Gal 5:22-23, 1 Cor 3:16, Eph 1:13-14, Rom 8:9

F. Man

We believe human beings are created by God, in His image, for His glory. We believe that through Adam's disobedience, all of humanity became dead in our trespasses and sins, and are born with a sinful nature. Since all have sinned, we are entirely dependent on the mercy of God for salvation.

Gen 1:26-27, Rom 5:12, Rom 3:10, Rom 3:21-24, Rom 5:2, Eph 2:1-5

G. Salvation

We believe that salvation is through the sovereign grace of God and that it is received through repentance and faith in the person and atoning sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ for sin, and that justification is by faith alone in the all-sufficient sacrifice and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Salvation is evidenced by the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit who transforms the whole person, producing love, gratitude, and faithful service. Those who belong to Christ are kept by His power and may live with joyful assurance of His saving grace.

Jn 3:16-17, Eph 2:8-10, Rom 8:28-30, Eph 1:5, 1 Cor 15:1-4, Rom 10:9-10, Rom 4:24-25, Rom 5:1, Phil 1:6, 1 Jn 5:11-13, 2 Cor 5:17, Jude 1:24-25

H. Future Things

We believe in the personal, bodily, and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ, to judge, to reign, and to restore all things, in the bodily resurrection of all humanity, the redeemed to eternal reward and the unrepentant to eternal punishment.

Acts 1:11, Rev 20:11-15, 1 Thess 4:16, Jn 5:25-29, 1 Cor 15:51-53, 2 Thess 1:7b-9, 1 Cor 15:24-25, Rev 21:1-5, Rev 22:12

I. The Church

We believe that there is one holy, universal church that includes the whole number of the redeemed from every nation and every age. She is the temple of the Holy Spirit, the body of Christ, the family of God, and the bride of the Lamb.

We believe that the local church is an autonomous assembly of baptized believers who agree to gather together regularly under the headship of Christ for teaching, worship, and partnership in the gospel.

Matt 16:15-18, Acts 2:41-42, Col 1:18-24, Gal 6:10, Eph 4:4-6, Eph 4:12-16, Eph 5:25-27, 1 Cor 1:2, 1 Cor 3:16, 1 Cor 12:27, Eph 2:19-22, Phil 1:3-11, 1 Pet 2:5

J. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We believe that the Lord our Saviour prescribed for His disciples the two ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Baptism is a symbol and proclamation of the sinner's death to sin and his resurrection in newness of life in Christ Jesus. Baptism is a mark of identity, not maturity, and is a one-time act of obedience, ushering the believer into the fellowship of the local body, and is a prerequisite to church membership. We practice the immersion of believers in conformity to the pattern of the New Testament, yet we receive those baptized as believers through other modes upon their credible profession of faith.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby believers in Christ, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming. The believer should examine themselves before partaking.

Col 2:12, Rom 6:3-5, Acts 2:41, Matt 28:18-20, Rom 6:4-11, 1 Cor 11:23-29

Family / Men and Women

God has ordained the family as a foundational institution of human society. He has designed marriage to be a covenantal union between one biological man and one biological woman for life, and the only appropriate context for sexual intimacy. In marriage, a husband, following the example of Christ who gave himself up for His bride, is called to lead, love, cherish and safeguard his wife, seeking her good above his own. A wife, following the example of the church, is called to respect and be submissive to her husband, seeking his good above her own, working together with him in all things lawful.

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 by teaching their children spiritual and moral values and leading them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

Men and women are equal before God, yet God has designed each with distinct and complementary traits and roles. While both men and women are called to teach in appropriate contexts, qualified men are to exercise authority and teach the congregation in the role of pastor/elder/overseer. These realities neither disparage the worth of either men or women nor inhibit their function and flourishing for the edification of the church and for the glory of God.

Genesis 1:26-28, Gen 2:18-24, Matt 19:5-6, Gal 3:27-29, Eph 5:22-33, Ps 127:3, Eph 6:1-3, 1 Pet 3:1-7, Prov 13:24, Prov 22:6, Prov 23:13-14, Prov 29:17, Prov 31:10-31, Heb 13:4, Mal 2:14-16, Titus 2, Deut 6:6-8, Titus 1:5-9, 1 Tim 3:1-7