

LEADER TRACK

CONGRUENCE IN THEOLOGY

Developing Agreement with God's Word to Lead with Integrity

Session Purpose:

To be in congruence in theology means to live in **agreement** and **harmony** with the Word of God. As leaders at Home Church, we are called to be **Kingdom-minded** and to develop a **biblical worldview** in both belief and practice. This session walks through nine core theological convictions that Home Church holds as **non-negotiable** for those stepping into leadership.

The Authority of Scripture

Statement:

Do you believe that all Scripture in the Bible is **infallible, inspired, and authoritative**?

What We Believe:

The Bible is **God-breathed**, without error, and the **final authority** on all matters of truth, faith, and conduct.

Scriptural Basis:

- 2 Timothy 3:16–17 — All Scripture is inspired by God and equips us for every good work.
- 2 Peter 1:20–21 — No prophecy of Scripture comes from man, but from God through the Holy Spirit.
- Isaiah 40:8 — The Word of God stands forever.
- Matthew 24:35 — Jesus confirms the enduring authority of God's Word.

Why It Matters:

- Scripture is the **standard of truth** (John 17:17).
- It equips leaders for **every good work** (2 Timothy 3:16–17).
- It never changes and **doesn't bend to culture**.
- Leadership requires **confidence in Scripture's clarity, authority, and power**.
- Leaders who dismiss parts of Scripture **erode their authority** to disciple others.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"The Bible is outdated."** → *God's Word is eternal* (Isaiah 40:8).
- **"The Bible contradicts itself."** → *Context and interpretation reveal unity* (2 Timothy 2:15).
- **"Jesus matters more than the Bible."** → *Jesus affirmed the authority of Scripture* (Matthew 5:17–18).
- **"Some parts don't apply anymore."** → *God's moral law is timeless* (Matthew 22:37–40).
- **"Everyone interprets it differently."** → *The Holy Spirit leads into truth* (John 16:13).



The Gifts of the Spirit

Statement:

Do you believe that the gifts of the Spirit are alive and active and to be used in **congruence with Scripture**?

What We Believe:

The Holy Spirit still gives gifts today for the **edification** of the Church and the **glory** of God, exercised in **order** and **love**.

Scriptural Basis:

- 1 Corinthians 12:7 — Gifts are given for the common good.
- 1 Corinthians 14:1, 12, 40 — Pursue gifts with love and order.
- Acts 2:17–18 — The Spirit is poured out on all believers.

Why It Matters:

- The Church thrives on **Spirit-empowered leadership**.
- Gifts build up the body and encourage believers (1 Corinthians 12:7).
- They function best in order, love, and truth (1 Corinthians 14:40).
- Rejecting gifts rejects part of the Spirit's work.
- Leaders must operate in gifts with **humility and balance**.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **“The gifts ended with the apostles.”** → *No scriptural basis for cessation* (1 Corinthians 13:8–12).
- **“The gifts cause division.”** → *Disorder is corrected, not canceled* (1 Corinthians 14:33, 40).
- **“They make people uncomfortable.”** → *Truth rightly taught brings peace* (1 Corinthians 12:1).
- **“Tongues are fake.”** → *Tongues are biblical and regulated* (1 Corinthians 14:2, 27–28).
- **“We don’t need the gifts with the Bible.”** → *The early church had both* (Acts 2:42–43).



The Sanctity of Life

Statement:

Do you believe that life begins upon **conception**, is **valuable**, and is to be **protected**?

What We Believe:

Life is sacred because it is **created, formed, and given** by God from the moment of conception.

Scriptural Basis:

- Genesis 1:27 — Made in God's image.
- Jeremiah 1:5 — Known before being formed.
- Psalm 139:13–16 — Fearfully and wonderfully made.
- Ruth 4:13 — The Lord gave her conception.

Why It Matters:

- Every human life bears **God's image**.
- Conception is an act of God (Ruth 4:13).
- Leaders must be courageous and compassionate in defense of life.
- Abortion is not a **political issue** — it's a **gospel issue**.
- The Church is called to speak up for the voiceless (Proverbs 31:8).

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"It's not a person yet."** → *God sees life in the womb* (Psalm 139).
- **"My body, my choice."** → *Your body is not your own* (1 Corinthians 6:19–20).
- **"What about hardship cases?"** → *God uses suffering redemptively* (Romans 8:28).
- **"We shouldn't force our beliefs."** → *We must advocate for the vulnerable* (Proverbs 31:8–9).
- **"The child won't have a good life."** → *God gives purpose, not just comfort* (John 9:1–3).



Biblical Gender

Statement:

Do you believe God made humanity solely **male and female**?

What We Believe:

God created two genders — **male and female** — distinct, equally valuable, and intentionally designed.

Scriptural Basis:

- Genesis 1:27 — Male and female created in God's image.
- Matthew 19:4 — Jesus reaffirms the binary of gender.
- Romans 1:21–27 — Rejecting God's design leads to distortion.

Why It Matters:

- Gender is **sacred**, not self-assigned.
- It **reflects** God's order and purpose.
- Confusion leads to identity crises and broken homes.
- Leaders must teach and **model** truth with clarity and compassion.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"Gender is a spectrum."** → *God created two* (Genesis 1:27).
- **"Sex and gender are different."** → *They are united by God's design* (Psalm 139).
- **"Jesus never talked about this."** → *Jesus affirms Genesis* (Matthew 19:4–6).
- **"People can define themselves."** → *Only the Creator defines His creation* (Isaiah 45:9).
- **"Gender roles are oppressive."** → *God's design brings order and blessing* (Ephesians 5:22–33).



Identity in Christ

Statement:

Do you believe Christians receive a **new identity** in Christ that surpasses all others?

What We Believe:

In Christ, we are **a new creation**, no longer defined by sin, trauma, or labels, but by Jesus.

Scriptural Basis:

- 2 Corinthians 5:17 — New creation.
- Galatians 2:20 — Christ now lives in me.
- Romans 6:6 — The old self is crucified.
- Galatians 3:28 — Christ is our new unifying identity.

Why It Matters:

- Identity is **foundational** for leadership.
- You can't lead in freedom while living in your old chains.
- Our new nature **reshapes** how we view people, problems, and purpose.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"I'm still broken or labeled."** → *In Christ, you are made new* (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- **"My race or trauma defines me."** → *Christ defines your worth* (Galatians 3:28).
- **"I was born this way."** → *That's why we must be born again* (John 3:3).
- **"Labels help me understand myself."** → *Scripture gives you a new name* (Romans 8:16–17).
- **"I follow Jesus but still identify with my struggle."** → *Live by the Spirit, not the flesh* (Romans 8:1–2).



Biblical Marriage

Statement:

Do you believe that marriage is to be shared between one **biological female** and one **biological male** as a part of God's plan for sexuality?

What We Believe:

Marriage is a covenant between one man and one woman, established by God to reflect **Christ and His Church**, for companionship, procreation, and purpose.

Scriptural Basis:

- Genesis 2:24 — A man shall leave his father and mother and be united to his wife.
- Matthew 19:4–6 — Jesus affirms Genesis: God made them male and female.
- Ephesians 5:31–32 — Marriage is a picture of Christ and the Church.

Why It Matters:

- Marriage reflects **covenant** relationship.
- Distorting marriage distorts the gospel message.
- It **anchors** family structure and legacy.
- Leaders must model and uphold **God's design in relationships**.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"Love is love."** → *Love must align with God's Word* (1 John 4:8; John 14:15).
- **"Jesus never condemned same-sex marriage."** → *Jesus affirmed male-female marriage* (Matthew 19:4–6).
- **"Marriage is a social contract."** → *Marriage is God's design before culture* (Genesis 2:24).
- **"It's about rights and equality."** → *Truth trumps cultural trends* (Isaiah 5:20).
- **"Love wins."** → *Love without truth is deception* (Ephesians 4:15).



Sexual Integrity

Statement:

Do you believe that God's design for sex is between **man and woman** in the **context of marriage**?

What We Believe:

Sex is a holy and powerful gift from God meant to be **expressed within marriage** for intimacy, unity, and life-giving purpose.

Scriptural Basis:

- Hebrews 13:4 — Honor marriage; keep the marriage bed undefiled.
- 1 Corinthians 6:18–20 — Flee sexual immorality; glorify God with your body.
- Genesis 2:25 — They were naked and unashamed.

Why It Matters:

- Sexual integrity preserves **spiritual** and **emotional** health.
- Leaders must model holiness in private and public.
- God's design protects from **bondage, shame, and confusion**.
- The Church must teach truth with **grace and conviction**.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"If we love each other, it's okay."** → *Love must exist within covenant* (Hebrews 13:4).
- **"God wants me to be happy."** → *Holiness leads to lasting joy* (1 Peter 1:16).
- **"It's just physical."** → *Sex unites souls* (1 Corinthians 6:16).
- **"Everyone's doing it."** → *We are called to be different* (Romans 12:1–2).
- **"We're married in our hearts."** → *Covenant is visible, not imagined* (Malachi 2:14).



Biblical Generosity

Statement:

Do you believe giving a **tithe to God** is an act of **worship** communicating your **trust**, devotion, and obedience to His Word?

What We Believe:

Tithing is a joyful act of worship that acknowledges God as **owner**, provides for His house, and develops a heart of trust and **generosity**.

Scriptural Basis:

- Malachi 3:10 — Bring the full tithe; God will open heaven's windows.
- Proverbs 3:9–10 — Honor the Lord with your wealth.
- 2 Corinthians 9:7 — God loves a cheerful giver.

Why It Matters:

- Giving **breaks greed** and **builds trust**.
- Tithing funds the work of ministry and missions.
- Leaders must go first in financial obedience.
- Where your **treasure** is, there your **heart** is also (Matthew 6:21).

Where Conflict Arises:

- **"Tithing is Old Testament law."** → *It predates the law and is affirmed by Jesus (Genesis 14; Matthew 23:23).*
- **"I give when I can."** → *Generosity is a discipline, not a feeling (Proverbs 3:9).*
- **"God doesn't need my money."** → *True, but He wants your heart (Matthew 6:21).*
- **"I give in other ways."** → *Financial giving is essential obedience (2 Corinthians 9:6–8).*
- **"Churches misuse money."** → *You're responsible for obedience; leadership is accountable to God (Hebrews 13:17).*



Eternal Destiny

Statement:

Do you believe in **eternal life** in Heaven for believers and **eternal separation** from God in Hell for unbelievers?

What We Believe:

Heaven and Hell are real, eternal destinations. Salvation through Jesus Christ determines our eternal destiny — this truth fuels **urgency** in mission.

Scriptural Basis:

- John 3:16–18 — Whoever believes will not perish but have eternal life.
- Revelation 20:11–15 — Final judgment before the Great White Throne.
- 2 Thessalonians 1:9 — The wicked will suffer eternal separation.

Why It Matters:

- If eternity is real, then **nothing matters more**.
- Belief in Heaven and Hell fuels our urgency to share the gospel.
- Leaders must teach and lead with **eternal perspective**.
- The gospel is good news only when we understand the reality of judgment.

Where Conflict Arises:

- **“A loving God wouldn’t send people to Hell.”** → *God honors human choice* (2 Thessalonians 1:9).
- **“Hell isn’t literal.”** → *Jesus taught it as a real place* (Luke 16:19–31).
- **“All religions lead to God.”** → *Jesus is the only way* (John 14:6).
- **“I believe in annihilation.”** → *Scripture teaches eternal separation* (Revelation 20:10).
- **“I don’t think about eternity.”** → *Set your mind on things above* (Colossians 3:1–2).

