



# **CONNECTIONS**

## CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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**COMMUNITY | KINGDOM | CALLING**

***BELIEFS, MISSION,  
VISION, and VALUES***

# **BELIEFS — TRUTHS God has declared**

## **God**

We believe there is one sovereign God: the creator, ruler, and redeemer of mankind, who has eternally existed in three persons — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

[Genesis 1:1, 26–27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2.](#)

## **Jesus Christ**

We believe that God the Son (Jesus Christ) died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead. Trusting Him as Savior brings forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Trusting in Him involves confessing sin, professing faith, repenting of sin, and being baptized by immersion.

[Matt 1:22-23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5, 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14-15; 1 Cor 15:3-4; Romans 1:3-4.](#)

## **The Holy Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit is God's gift to all Christians. His transforming influence brings new life and He is our guide and comforter. He empowers believers to fulfill God's vision and purpose for their lives.

[2 Cor 3:17; John 16:7-13, 14:16-17; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor 2:12, 3:16.](#)

## **The Bible**

We believe the Bible is God's sourcebook for faith and daily living. It is divinely inspired, error-free in its original writings, and the true source for knowing God's will. It is our ultimate authority on matters of faith and living.

[2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105,160; Psalm 12:6.](#)

## **Humanity**

We believe humans are created by God in His image, have willfully sinned against Him, and, consequently, are lost and without hope apart from a restored relationship with Him. Our salvation (involving the forgiveness of sins) is achieved only by grace through faith in the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ.

[Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Isaiah 59:1-2; Romans 3:23; Ephesians 2:8-9](#)

## **The Family**

We believe God created the family as the primary environment for discipleship (growing in Christ-likeness).

[Deuteronomy 6; Ephesians 5](#)

## **The Church**

We believe the church (as the body of Christ) is God's enterprise for the redemption and benefit of humankind. It is a community of faith consisting of all Christians. We further believe the church (as an organized institution) exists to equip the body of Christ for discipleship and the work of ministry. We believe that the New Testament provides the pattern for local church practices and organization.

[Matthew 16:18; Acts 20:28; Ephesians 1:22; Ephesians 4:15.](#)

## **MISSION — God's primary command for the Church to pursue.**

*To make disciples by connecting people in community, teaching them the truths of God's Kingdom, and helping them engage their unique calling from God.*

## **VISION — A God-inspired description of what it looks like to pursue our Mission in a specific timeframe.**

*Over the next two years, we want members of Connections intentionally maturing in their faith and influencing the people around them with the hope of Christ.*

*Goals:*

*everyone in a discipleship group – MATURING in understanding*

*everyone in a LifeGroup – MATURING in application*

*everyone serving on a team (inside/outside) – INFLUENCING with the HEART of JESUS*

*everyone equipped and empowered to effectively share their faith with the non-believers in their life and invite them to explore Jesus. INFLUENCING with the HOPE of JESUS*

## **VALUES — Core biblical principles that guide the manner in which we accomplish our Mission and realize our Vision.**

*We value helping people know they BELONG to our family by building trusting relationships.*

*We value teaching Biblical truths and helping people BELIEVE them.*

*We value helping people grow mature in their faith so they can BECOME who God created them to be.*

*We value engaging our community to meet needs and introduce people to Jesus.*

*We value stewardship of all the things God has entrusted to us for the benefit of His Kingdom and mission.*

*We value involving the body of Christ in the work of the church by:*

*engaging people on one or more of the ministry teams across the church*

*encouraging them to bring their gifts & passions to the team*

*equipping them to fulfill the mission of the team*

*empowering them to carry out ministry as they are led by Holy Spirit*

*expanding their influence on their team or into new ministry areas*