

Our Statement of Faith

Adopted September 2022

God is Creator and Sustainer of all Creation and deserves honor and glory.

Jesus Christ is our Savior and Redeemer, fully God and fully human. He existed along with the Father and the Holy Spirit before time and now reigns eternally in heaven. On earth He did not claim His right to equality with God, but instead, having clothed Himself with human flesh, He set aside the things He could do as God, and became a part of mankind. He lived a perfect life and then died on a cross, paying the penalty for our sins. Three days later, Jesus rose from the grave, conquering death and defeating sin, that humanity might once again be reconciled to God.

The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son. From the moment someone asks Jesus to be in charge of their life, the Holy Spirit makes a permanent home in that person, guaranteeing salvation and God's strength, wisdom and guidance in their lives. He is the Comforter that Jesus promised to send when He ascended into Heaven.

The Bible is the authoritative Word of God. It is God-breathed and Holy Spirit inspired, written and handed down by humans. We can trust the truth of the Bible completely. It is the only perfect guide for how to live and what to believe.

Humanity - God created all people in His image, designed to reflect His glory through a personal encounter with Christ and the Holy Spirit. Our potential to be fully united with God by means of our character was damaged when we decided not to follow God, but rather went our own self-centered ways. The only way for us to recover our relationship with God is by saying "no" to our sinful nature and behavior and saying "yes" to the sacrificial gift of Jesus Christ, allowing Him to be the atonement for our sins and the center of who we are in faith and life.

Eternal Life and Salvation - Nobody is perfect, and nobody is able to earn God's love. It is given to us as a gift because of the atoning sacrifice of Jesus. Once a person has said "yes" to Jesus, there is nothing that can separate that person from God here on earth and for eternity. Those who believe that Jesus is God, that He died and rose again, ask Jesus to take charge of their lives, and welcome the life changing power of the Holy Spirit are saved and will live forever in the presence of God in heaven.

Faith and Practice - Hope City Church recognizes that it cannot dictate in areas where the Bible is silent. Rather, each believer is to be led in those areas by the Holy Spirit. For the sake of unity, we will agree to disagree, extend grace, and love one another as Christ loved us.

In short, we take the Bible and Jesus Christ seriously, but we're not legalistic, which means:

In the essentials we have unity.

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus." Romans 15:5

In nonessential beliefs we have liberty.

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm then, and do not let yourselves be burdened by a yoke of slavery." Galatians 5:1

In all our beliefs we show love.

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God." I John 4:7