

WHAT WE BELIEVE

...about the **Bible**

- ✓ The human authors of the Bible were compelled by God's Spirit in what they wrote.
- ✓ The Bible is God's message to man and should be everyone's guidebook for living.
- ✓ As to authority and ability, the Bible is unlike (and superior to) any other writing anywhere at any other time. (*The "Apocryphal" books not found in the Hebrew Law & Prophets are not recognized as having status equal to Scripture.*)

(*2Tim.3:16; 1Thes.2:13; Heb.1:1, 4:12; 2Pet.1:21*)

...about **God**

- ✓ The God of the Bible is the only true living God.
- ✓ He is timeless, having no beginning or end, and does not change.
- ✓ As Creator of all things, He possesses infinite power and knowledge.
- ✓ He is totally perfect and is present everywhere, all the time.

(*Deut.32:4,39; Psa.139:7,8; Isa.40:28; 55:9; Mal.3:6*)

...about **Jesus Christ**

- ✓ Jesus was born physically to the virgin Mary, being fathered by the Holy Spirit.
- ✓ The man Jesus was the Christ who previously existed in the form of God.
- ✓ The qualities of God, including sinlessness, were fully embodied in the man Jesus.
- ✓ He perfectly reflected the nature and love of God as an example for us to follow.
- ✓ He died a physical death, was raised by God from the grave, and ascended to His throne in heaven.
- ✓ He will return in the future and His supreme reign will continue forever.

(*Isa.7:14; 9:6-7; John 1:1,14; Phip.2:6-11; Col.2:9; 1Thes.4:14-17; Heb.1:1-4*)

...about the **Holy Spirit**

- ✓ He was sent to man by God according to the previous promise of God.
- ✓ He convinces men concerning the truth of God and their need of Him.
- ✓ He accomplishes spiritual birth in man, produces Christ-like character, fills the believer to whatever capacity allowed, and deposits spiritual gifts for serving the Church.
- ✓ He is the invisible Companion who counsels and empowers believers to please God with their choices.

(*Joel 2:28; John 14:16-17,26; 16:8-13; Acts 19:2-6; Rom.2:29; 8:14-16; 1Cor.2:10-12; 12:4-11; 2Cor.3:17; Gal.5:16,22-23; 6:8*)



...about **Man**

- ✓ Man was created by God (not evolved) for the purpose of being intimate with Him.
- ✓ Every person born inherits the first man's (Adam's) unholy nature.
- ✓ All are spiritually separated from the Creator at birth and need to be reconciled to Him.

(Gen. 1:27; Rom. 5:12,19; 2Cor. 5:21; Eph. 2:12)

...about the **Devil**

- ✓ he is a created being, not equal to deity.
- ✓ he is absolutely corrupt and lives to corrupt all.
- ✓ he is the ultimate hater of God and those who love God.
- ✓ he presently has dominion on earth but will ultimately be damned forever.

(Gen. 3:14-15; John 8:44; 2Cor. 4:4; 2Tim. 2:26; 1Pet. 5:8; Rev. 20:10)

...about **Salvation**

- ✓ The "saving" of a man's soul is necessary for him to live forever with God.
- ✓ Salvation requires that man's sin be forgiven by God which is only possible when he accepts God's grace through believing in Jesus as God's only source of eternal life.
- ✓ Salvation results in a life pleasing to God with evidence of godly character.

(John 3:3,16-18; 14:6; Rom. 10:9; Eph. 2:8,9; Tit. 3:5; Heb. 5:9; 2Pet. 1:2-8)

...about the **Church**

- ✓ It is the global body which includes every person who has saving faith in Jesus Christ.
- ✓ It is expressed in local fellowships where believers experience practical unity and carry out the biblical ordinances of the church (i.e., baptism, communion)
- ✓ Jesus Christ is the spiritual head of the Church, and she is His "bride".
- ✓ Peter's confession gives the church's foundational truth: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
- ✓ The Church is God's vehicle for advancing His purposes in this world.

(Matt. 16:16; 28:19-20; Luk. 22:19-20; 1Cor. 1:2; Eph. 3:10; 4:15-16; 5:23,27)

BGF MISSION STATEMENT

"We are a bible-based local church committed to declaring and demonstrating a compassionate, relevant gospel to everyone in our sphere of influence so that they can fulfill life's purpose through Christ."