



STATEMENT OF

faith

FIRM *Foundation*

The foundation of our beliefs at Let's Echo are based upon the Holy Scriptures. We believe that the scriptures were written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and are without error, and are therefore the basis of truth.

"All scripture is inspired by God and beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man or woman of God may be fully capable, equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17 NASB).

It is with this conviction that we as a Christian organization present the following as our Statement of Faith:

WHAT WE BELIEVE

GOD

There is one God and that He is completely perfect and existent in the persons of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. (References: Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Corinthians 8:4; Galatians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:5; Genesis 1:1, 26; 3:22; 11:7; Isaiah 6:8, 48:16, 61:1; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

JESUS

We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, and paid for our sins by His shed blood and death on the Cross. We believe that He rose from the dead and ascended to the right hand of the Father, and that He will return in power and glory. (References: Revelation 1:17, 2:8, 22:13; 1 Corinthians 10:4; 1 Peter 2:6-8; Psalms 18:2, 95:1; 1 Peter 5:4; Hebrews 13:20; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:27, 34; 1 John 3:5; John 20:30; John 21:25; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Matthew 28:1-20; Mark 16:1-20; Luke 24:1-53; John 20:1-21:25; Luke 24:50-51; Acts 1:9-11; Romans 8:19-25; 1 Corinthians 1:7; Philippians 3:20; Titus 2:13;))

WHAT WE BELIEVE

THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and that His presence in the life of a Christian enables them to live a Godly life. We also believe that the Holy Spirit provides one or more spiritual gifts to all believers, manifesting them as He desires.

We further believe that all of the gifts of the Holy Spirit are available to Christians today.

We believe that the Bible is Holy Spirit inspired, and that it is the authoritative Word of God and that it is forever reliable. (References: John 14:17; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 1 Corinthians 12:7-11; Ephesians 4:11; Romans 12:6-8; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Acts 2:22; Acts 14:3))

BAPTISM

We believe in the believer's water baptism by immersion in obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ. We believe in the importance of a believer's regular participation in communion. (References: Matthew 28:19-20; Romans 6:4; Corinthians 11:23-26)

THE SUPER NATURAL

We believe in the ministry and presence of angels, the reality of the devil and demonic forces. (References: Hebrews 1:14; Psalms 103:20; Revelation 12:9; Ephesians 6:12)

SANCTITY OF LIFE

We believe in the sanctity of human life and that life begins at the moment of conception. (References: Psalms 139:13-16; Isaiah 49:1)

HEALING

We believe that the "stripes" placed upon Jesus Christ back at his crucifixion provide physical healing to all who will believe and receive. (References: Isaiah 53:5; 1 Peter 2:24)

WHAT WE BELIEVE

THE BIBLE

We affirm the Bible to be the Holy Spirit inspired, authoritative Word of God and that it is eternally reliable. (References: 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21)

SALVATION

We believe that salvation is by grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; those that are saved are resurrected to eternal life and those that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation. (Reference: Ephesians 2:8-9; Daniel 12:2; John 5:29))

THE CHURCH

We believe there is one universal Church, which is the Body of Christ.

We believe Christ is the head of the Church and that all born again believers are its members.

We believe the church's purpose is to offer worship to God, fellowship, ministry and instruction to itself, and evangelism and service to the world.

We believe in the 5 fold ministry listed in Ephesians 4 - Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers.

We believe and encourage the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (References: 1 Corinthians 12:12-21, 27; Ephesians 5:22-25, 30; Psalms 96:1-2; Acts 2:42; Romans 15:14; Ephesians 4:32; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 4:11)

PURITY & MARRIAGE

We believe in and endorse abstinence from sexual activity for Christian single men and women; and that Christian marriage is sacred. We define marriage alone as a union between one man and one woman. (References: 1 Corinthians 7:2; Genesis 2:24; Ephesians 5:23-33; Matthew 19:4-6)

WHAT WE BELIEVE

women in ministry

One of the most frequent theological questions posed to Let's Echo revolves around women.

The question of how men and women relate and engage in church leadership offices (particularly pastor and elder) has been a subject of significant debate at various points in church history. There are many considerations within the broader subject of men and women in leadership that are dealt with in the Bible. Here we have included a summary of things we see taught across the arc of Scripture that directly bear on our church's position and practice.

We believe that women and men are created equal in the image of God.

We believe that full equality between women and men does not mean women and men are completely the same. There is a unique goodness and beauty represented in each gender that reflects the infinite wisdom and glory of God.

We believe that God raises up leaders for the church on the basis of grace, calling, spiritual gifts, obedience, and character.

We believe both women and men can and should lead, preach, pastor, and minister within the church.

We believe that when men and women lead together, there is a ministry of love and grace that is more robust than can be sustained by one gender alone.

We believe women and men can and should serve in pastoral leadership in the local church.

Let's Echo believes that men and women are equally gifted and qualified to lead and serve as co-laborers in the church. We do not just permit, but we emphatically value the presence of both men and women at every level of church leadership—including the office of elder. We see this as both being in line with the teaching of the Scriptures as well as being practically helpful and wise.