



## **Preparing the Way Ministries- Statement of Faith**

We believe in one God, eternally existing as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*Deut. 6:4, Heb. 11:6, Matt. 28:19*

We believe in Jesus Christ as God who became flesh, born of a virgin. He lived a sinless life, was crucified for our sins, was resurrected from the dead, and ascended, sitting at the right hand of the Father as the exalted Lord and head of the church.

*Jn. 1:14, Heb. 1:1-6, Phil. 2:5-8, Rom. 1:4, Col. 1:15-19, Eph. 1:22-23*

We believe in the deity and person of the Holy Spirit, his indwelling presence, regenerating work, empowering baptism, fruits of the Spirit, spiritual gifts, and equipping ministry in the church today.

*Ezk. 36:26, Joel 2:28-29, Acts 1:4-5, 2:1-18, Jn. 16:7-10, Jn. 14:26, 16:13*

We believe that all Scripture is the inspired, infallible, authoritative Word of God, and is fully reliable and trustworthy.

*2 Tim. 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21, Gal. 1:11-12, Prov. 30:5, Jn. 10:35, Heb 4:12*

We believe God created the heavens and earth and all that is in them in six days. We believe that God has created human beings, male and female, in His divine image with a special dignity accorded to them out of all the works of creation. They were made for a relationship with God.

*Gen. 1:1, 31, Jn. 1:3, Gen. 1:26-27, 31, Ps. 8:5-6, Gen. 3:8-9*

We believe, beginning with Adam and Eve's sinful rebellion, we have all received a sinful nature and been given over to the enslaving powers of evil and eternal death and separation from God.

*Deut. 6:4, Heb. 11:6, Matt. 28:19*

We believe that, only through Jesus Christ, God offers salvation from sin and a new way of life. We receive God's salvation and are born again by the Spirit of God when we repent and accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. It is by faith, through God's grace, that we are saved.

*Jn. 3:16, Acts 4:12, 1 Jn. 4:14, 2 Cor. 5:19, Matt. 26:28, Eph. 2:5-9, Rom. 3:20-31, Rom. 5, Heb. 2:14-14, Col. 2:13-15*

We believe that the church is the assembly of those who have accepted God's offer of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. It is the new community of disciples sent into the world to proclaim the reign of God.

*Eph. 4, Acts 2, Acts 11, 1 Cor. 12:12-13, Gal. 3:26-29*

We believe that the mission of the church is to take the Gospel of the Kingdom to all the nations, making disciples of them, baptizing them, and teaching them to observe all things as commanded by Jesus Christ. The mission of the church includes ministry to the poor and helpless.

*Acts 1:8, Matt. 28:18-20, Mk. 1:15, 2 Cor. 5:14, Eph. 2:17-20*

We believe that the baptism of believers with water is a pledge of their covenant with God. It identifies them with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. It is a sign of their cleansing and freedom from sin, and their commitment to walk in the way of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Immersion is the primary mode of baptism.

*Rom. 6:1-6, Matt. 28:19, Acts 2:22-24, 36-41, Acts 8:26-39, Gal. 3:26-29, Col. 2:10-15*

We believe that through the Lord's Supper the church renews its covenant with God and with each other, and participates in the life and death of Jesus Christ until He comes.

*1 Cor. 11:23-32, 1 Cor. 10:16-17, Lk. 22:15-30, Jer. 31: 31-34*

We practice discipline in the church to liberate erring brothers and sisters from sin, and to restore them to a right relationship with God and to fellowship in the church.

*Rom. 6:1-6, Matt. 28:19, Acts 2:22-24, 36-41, Acts 8:26-39, Gal. 3:26-29, Col. 2:10-15*

We believe marriage is between one man and one woman. All sexual activity outside of marriage, including fornication, adultery, and homosexuality, is sin.

*Gen. 2:21-25, Ex. 30:2,4, Matt. 5:28, Eph. 5:3, Rom. 1:18-32, Peter 2:21, 2 Tim. 2:11-12*

We believe that Jesus Christ calls us to discipleship, to take up our cross and follow him.

*Phil. 3:10, Rom. 12:1-2, Matt. 5-7, Mic. 6:8, 1 Peter 2:21, 2 Tim. 2:11-12*

We believe it is God's will for Christians to refrain from violence in human relationships. Led by the Holy Spirit, we will follow Christ in the way of peace.

*Isa. 2:2-4, 11:1-9, Hos. 2:18, Matt. 5: 8-12, 38-48, 6:14-15, 26:52, 1 Peter 2:21-24, 1 Cor. 6:1-16, Rom. 12:14-21*

We place our hope in the reign of God and its fulfillment in the day when Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead: the unsaved into the everlasting punishment of hellfire, and the saved into eternal bliss with Christ. We await God's final victory, the end of this present age of struggle, the resurrection of the dead, and a new heaven and a new earth.

*Judg. 8:23, Mk. 1:15, Phil. 2:8-11, Rev. 11:15, 15:3-4, 21 & 22, 1 Cor. 15:12:58, Jn. 5:28-29, Matt. 10:28, 23:33, Matt. 9:43-48, Lk. 16:23*

We also agree and strive to fulfill the evangelistic call in the Lausanne covenant. You can read more here: <https://lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant>