Statement of Faith of Christian Starter Kit.com

Christian Starter Kit.com believes it is wise to "stand on the shoulders of giants." We have adopted our statement of faith from some of our favorite trusted Christian organizations, who through no man-made organization are unified in *these* particular doctrines. I do not intend to assert this blended statement of faith on these organizations, but rather to adopt their statement of faith on us.

<u>The Bible:</u> We believe the Holy Scriptures known as the Bible are the sixty-six books contained in the Old and New Testament. The Bible is inspired by God and is without error in the original writings. The Bible is the complete and final revelation from God and is the authority for our practical instruction in faith and conduct. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:16-19)

<u>God:</u> We believe in one God, the triune Godhead, who is eternal and manifests Himself in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Genesis 1:1-2, Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 28:19, John 1:1-5)

Jesus Christ: We believe Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah spoken of in the Old Testament. He exists eternally and is God the Son. He became flesh (John 1), was born of a virgin conceived by the Holy Spirit, lived a sinless life (John 8:46), and was crucified for the sins of the whole world (1 Corinthians 15:3). After death, he was buried, and literally arose from the grave three days later (1 Corinthians 15:4). His death on the cross completed the final sacrifice necessary in order to fully restore sinful mankind to a relationship with God. (Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 53, John 1:36-41, Hebrews 10:5-10)

<u>The Holy Spirit:</u> We believe the Holy Spirit, who is the third person of the Trinity, indwells in believers at the time of their salvation. The Holy Spirit convicts men of sin, but also enables us to live an obedient life to God and His Word. The Holy Spirit gives us a new birth and seals our irreversible salvation. (John 3:1-6; Act 1:4-8; Romans 8:1-27; 1 Corinthians 6:19, 12; Ephesians 1:13)

<u>The Nature of Man:</u> We believe that all mankind was created by God in His own image and is not the product of evolution. Man fell out of fellowship with God starting with Adam's original sin and inherited a perpetual sinful nature, which eternally separates the human race from God. (Genesis 1, 2; Mark 10:18, Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 4:3-8)

<u>Satan:</u> We believe there is a real devil, called Satan, who, is himself fallen and is the prince of demons, and evil spirits. Satan is a declared enemy of God and His people and is destined to spend eternity in hell, but beforehand is bent on deception, defeat, and the destruction of Gods work. We who are protected by God can resist evil and are guaranteed the ultimate triumph of God. (Genesis 3:1, Job 1:6-11, Matthew 4:1-11, Ephesians 6:10-20, Revelation 20:10)

<u>Salvation</u>: We believe that salvation is your guarantee to enter into the kingdom of God; the saving of man from his sin, death, and hell, and that it is the free gift of God's grace, based on

grace alone through faith alone in the belief in Jesus Christ alone. We believe that salvation is irrevocable once truly received and that it is not received, based on any works, ritual or ceremony, or merit, but only by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. (John 1, 3:16, 6:38-40, 10:28-30, 14:6, 8:58; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 1:13-14, 2:8-10; Titus 3:5)

<u>The Eternal State of Heaven & Hell:</u> We believe all those who have salvation will pass into the presence of Christ in heaven, a real place, where we will remain in the eternal joy and fellowship. Hell is a real place where unbelievers will suffer torment until their second death, the bodily resurrection and damnation to the lake of fire. (Daniel 12:2; John 14:1-4; Revelation 20:11-15, 21:8, 22:1-5)

Future Things (General): We believe Jesus Christ will return for His church (1 Thessalonians 4:16) before the tribulation, to reward them according to their works, He will return with His saints and all His holy angels to the earth at the end of the tribulation, and set up His kingdom on earth, ruling and reigning forever and ever. (Matthew 24, Revelation 19:13-14) (taken from Calvary Chapel Chino Hills). Specifically, we believe:

The <u>tribulation</u> yet to come is the seven year period during which the judgements of God will be poured out upon the unbelieving world. These judgements will climax with the return of Christ in glory to the earth. He will destroy His enemies and restore Israel to her land. (Daniel 9:27, 12:1; Jeremiah 30:7; Matthew 24:15-31, 25:31-46; Il Thessalonians 2:7-12; Revelation 16, 19) (taken from Shadow Mountain Community Church)

Christ will then establish His thousand-year, <u>Millennial Kingdom</u>, in which saints will reign with Him over Israel and all the nations of the earth. (Isaiah 11:6-10, 65:17-25; Ezekiel 37:21-28; Revelation 19:11, 20:1-6) (taken from Shadow Mountain Community Church)

At the close of the thousand year reign the unsaved dead will be raised and committed to eternal punishment and the saved will enter the eternal state of glory with God. (Mark 9:43-48; I Corinthians 15:24-28; II Thessalonians 1:9; II Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 20:11-15, 21:1-4, 22:5, 11) (taken from Shadow Mountain Community Church)

<u>The Believer:</u> We believe that all believers should seek to walk by the Spirit, separating themselves from worldly practices and witnessing by life and by word the truths of the Holy Scripture. (Romans 12:1; Galatians 5:16, 25; 2 Corinthians 5:9-17). We believe that all believers will be judged at the judgment seat of Christ and rewarded based on their faithful obedience to Him in this life. (1 Corinthians 3:10-17). (taken from Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship)

<u>Israel:</u> We believe that the nation of Israel has a special place in God's plan, and that all of the promises of God to Israel will be fulfilled both now and in the Second Coming of Jesus Christ in

His millennium. (Genesis 12:3, 17:16-19, 21:3, 22:15-18, 27:26-29, 32:24-29, Psalm 122) (taken from Calvary Chapel Chino Hills)

<u>The Church:</u> We believe that local churches gather together for practical instruction in the scriptures, for fellowship with God and with other believers, and for corporate witness to the unsaved world. Our common spiritual goal is to grow toward Christ's likeness. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:42-47; Romans 12:5; Ephesians 4:13-16) (taken from Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship)

We believe the Lord Jesus left for the obedience of His people two ordinances, memorial of character, which are to be observed during this present age: <u>Baptism</u> by immersion and <u>the Lord's Supper</u> are commanded by Christ. Water baptism is an outward sign of what the Holy Spirit has performed in the heart of the believer. The Lord's Supper is observed by the believer at Christ's request until His return as a memorial of His sacrifice in securing our redemption. Matthew 28:19; Acts 8:26-38, Acts 10:47-48; Matthew 26:26-29; I Corinthians 11:27-31. (taken from Living on the Edge)

<u>Gender, Sex, and Marriage:</u> We believe the human race was created as male and female by a direct act of God to fully reveal His image (Genesis 1:26-28). We believe marriage is a sacred covenantal union between a man and a woman that limits sexual relations to monogamous, heterosexual marriage (Genesis 2:24). We believe that the solemnizing of a marriage is a sacred and profound event that shall be entered into only where the proposed covenantal union is in compliance with the Word of God (Genesis 4:1). We believe that the solemnizing of a marriage between men and women of the same sex is contrary to the Word of God and is a sin before God. (Romans 1:21-27) (taken from Calvary Chapel Chino Hills)

References:

- Calvary Chapel Chino Hills
- Shadow Mountain Community Church
- Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship
- Living on the Edge