

WHAT WE BELIEVE

This document is about what we believe, and how we practice our faith at TC Ministries. We trust you find it helpful.

When looking for a new church it is important to find one that best suits your particular needs, and this includes checking out what they believe and how they practice their faith. Same goes for parachurch ministry sites such as TC Ministries.

All Christian churches and ministries have different emphases and vary in their leadership structure, liturgy, and acceptance of certain aspects of doctrine. We are happy to present our foundational beliefs and doctrines to you in this summary document.

We do not claim to have the whole truth or the only truth, but we do claim to know the one who does, and trust that He will guide us into all truth as we remain open to what He has to say to us at this significant time in world history in which we live.

We Believe:

- ◆ Jesus Christ is the Son of God, who came in the flesh, died on the cross, was resurrected on the third day, ascended into glory, and now sits at the right hand of the Father making intercession for all believers. Soon He will come again. (John 1:1-3)
- ◆ Man is made in God's image consisting of spirit, soul and body, three-in-one, just as God is made up of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three-in-one. This constitutes a full expression of the divine nature of God, commonly referred to as the "Trinity"; equal yet distinct, eternal, immortal, invisible and ever present. (Romans 5:1-5; Matt 16:13-15)
- ◆ A Christian is someone who is born again by the Spirit of God according to John 3:3. Our sins are forgiven, and our guilt removed through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, God's only Son.
- ◆ Water baptism by immersion is a public profession by a believer of a personal faith in Jesus Christ. (Mark 16:16; Matt 28:19-20)
- ◆ The baptism in the Holy Spirit, as evidenced by various gifts including speaking in tongues and prophecy, is usually a separate and distinct experience to salvation, but not always. While salvation is not dependent upon the expression of these various gifts we do believe that without it a believer may not fulfil God's plan and purpose for their life as successfully as they otherwise might. (Eph 5:8; Acts 2:4)
- ◆ The fruit of the Holy Spirit indicates a believer's true spiritual maturity in Christ as evidenced by growth in character and integrity, and should be valued above the expression of gifts. (Gal 5:22-23)
- ◆ The Bible is the Word of God to mankind. We believe it contains all the answers pertaining to life, and it is against this that we check all doctrine, beliefs and opinions. Our church traditions must be subject to the Scripture for verification and confirmation, as should all prophecy, visions and "words" from God. (2 Tim 3:16)
- ◆ In a style of worship that allows freedom of expression of praise and includes raising hands, clapping, dancing and the manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit. We enjoy and promote contemporary music and expressions of worship. (Ps 47:1; Col 3:16)
- ◆ Satan is the enemy of our faith, the epitome of all that is evil, and the source of all rebellion. He is a liar and a thief to be resisted firmly until the end. We also believe that he is a defeated enemy because "*Greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world*" (1 John 4:4).
- ◆ The unity of believers is the visible expression of the Body of Christ, united by the Holy Spirit, with Jesus Christ as the Head (Rom 12:3-8). Where possible this unity should transcend denominational boundaries and liturgical preferences.
- ◆ The sanctity of marriage, and the God ordained structures of government, church and family. (Gen 2:24; Heb 13:4; Matt 19:4-6)