

TFC Foundational Truths

we accept the gospel, therefore we believe

The One True God / The Trinity

We believe in the only eternal, unsurpassable God.

[Deuteronomy 6:4](#), [Psalm 72:18-19](#), [Psalm 86:8-10](#), [Isaiah 44:6-8](#), [Hosea 13:4](#), [Mark 12:28-30](#), [John 5:44](#),
[John 17:3](#), [Romans 16:27](#), [James 2:19](#), [1 Timothy 1:17](#), [Jude 1:25](#)

We believe He revealed Himself as *three distinct persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) in one perfect unity (theologically referred to as the Trinity)*.

[Matthew 28:19](#), [Luke 3:21-22](#), [Luke 10:21](#), [Romans 8:14-17](#), [2 Corinthians 13:14](#), [Ephesians 4:3-6](#), [Titus 3:4-7](#)
[Hebrews 9:14](#), [1 Peter 1:2](#), [1 Peter 4:14](#), [1 John 4:2](#), [Revelation 22:16-19](#)

We believe God has revealed Himself as:

The Father

Who was, is, and eternally will be in and with The Son and The Holy Spirit.

The *unalterable, unchangeable (in character, nature, power, and preeminence) Ultimate (master and sovereign of all)*.
[1 Chronicles 29:10-13](#), [Isaiah 43:10-13](#), [Jeremiah 32:27](#), [Matthew 19:26](#), [Romans 11:33-36](#)

The absolute initiator, power, authority, master and judge over all reality that has, does or will exist.
[Genesis 1:1](#), [Isaiah 40:28](#), [Jeremiah 23:23-24](#), [Daniel 4:34-35](#), [John 5:26](#), [Acts 17:25](#), [Revelation 4:11](#)

The origin and standard of love, truth, virtue and goodness.
[Psalm 145:8-9](#), [Jeremiah 32:17-19](#), [Matthew 5:48](#)

The Son (Jesus Christ)

Who was, is, and eternally will be in and with The Father and The Holy Spirit.

The creator and sustainer of the cosmos.
[Colossians 1:13-18](#), [John 1:1-4](#)

The exact representation of the Father's character and nature.
[John 1:18](#), [Hebrews 1:1-3](#), [John 10:27-30](#), [John 14:8-11](#), [Philippians 2:5-6](#)

The mediator of the covenant offered by God; humanity's way to lasting joy, truth and life.
[John 1:14](#), [1 Timothy 2:3-5](#), [Hebrews 9:15](#)

Sent from the Father as the only savior of repentant sinners.
[Matthew 1:20-23](#), [Ephesians 1:3-9](#), [Philippians 2:5-11](#)

The Lord and Master of those who follow Him; the King of the Kingdom of God whose reign will never end.
[Isaiah 9:6](#), [Luke 1:30-33](#), [Revelation 5:11-14](#)

The Holy Spirit

Who was, is, and eternally will be in and with The Father and The Son.

The assurance of the followers union with Jesus Christ and participation in His Kingdom.
[Ephesians 1:13-14](#), [Ephesians 3:14-21](#)

The agent of grace, strength, wisdom and union with God and between followers of Christ.
[Romans 8:14-16](#), [1 Corinthians 12:11-13](#)

The sufficiency of the follower to reflect Christ through the indwelling presence of God.
[Acts 1:8](#), [Acts 5:32](#), [1 Corinthians 6:19](#)

The source and sustaining force of faith, hope and love.
[1 Corinthians 13:1](#), [Galatians 5:16-25](#)

Sent from the Father and the Son to empower their servants.
[Luke 11:13](#), [John 14:16-17](#), [John 14:26](#), [John 16:7-11](#), [Romans 15:13](#), [1 Thessalonians 1:5](#)

The Written Word of God / The Bible

We believe that God has revealed Himself and His plan for humanity through the *Bible* (39 books of the Old Testament & 27 books of the New Testament).

[Acts 1:16](#), [Acts 4:25](#), [Acts 13:34-35](#), [Acts 28:25](#), [2 Peter 1:21](#), [Jude 1:3](#), [Revelation 22:18-19](#)

We believe that every word (in the original autographs) of the Bible is inspired by God and absolutely true. This truth encompasses the Bible's message, history, philosophy, theology, promises, and invitation.

[Matthew 5:17-19](#), [Matthew 24:35](#), [Revelation 21:5](#)

We believe the Bible is the *ultimate* (without equal) and final standard and test for beliefs, behavior and lifestyle.

[Luke 11:28](#), [1 Corinthians 10:11](#), [2 Timothy 3:15-17](#), [Hebrews 4:12](#)

We believe the Holy Spirit has and continues to speak through *Bible translations* (the interpretation of scripture into other languages) to every man, woman, and child who wholeheartedly seeks the truth.

[Jeremiah 29:13](#), [Isaiah 55:11](#), [Acts 17:11](#), [1 Thessalonians 2:13](#)

People / Humanity

We believe God created the universe in a way that reflects and demonstrates His power and nature to humanity.

[Psalm 19:1-2](#), [Isaiah 45:5-12](#), [Romans 1:18-22](#)

We believe God chose to create humanity in a likeness of Himself as His "very good" children; to live in loving relationship with Him and in trusting obedience to Him.

We believe God entrusted the care of the earth and authority over it to humanity.

[Genesis 1:26-31](#), [Genesis 9:1-3](#), [Psalm 8:4-8](#), [Psalm 115:16](#)

We believe God desires humanity to gratefully love, respect and honor Him in response to all the goodness He freely lavished on them.

[Deuteronomy 26:9-11](#), [Psalm 22:27](#), [Revelation 15:4](#)

We believe God created humanity with the purpose of building an eternal, loving, familial relationship with them.

[Acts 17:24-28](#), [2 Corinthians 6:18](#), [John 14:1-3](#)

We believe God allowed humanity to accept or deny Him and that relationship.

[Genesis 2:15-17](#), [Joshua 24:15](#), [John 5:40-44](#)

We believe humanity has *rebelled* (scorned the rightful place of God) and rejected God and a relationship with Him, choosing instead to honor and live for themselves and / or other masters. This choice is painful and insulting to God and is called sin.

[Genesis 6:5-6](#), [Psalm 14:2-3](#), [Psalm 106:39-40](#), [Deuteronomy 9:24](#), [Romans 3:23](#)

Rebellion / Sin

We believe all humanity is born with a hereditary disposition toward *sin* (living for themselves in rebellion against God).

[Romans 3:9](#), [Romans 5:12](#), [Ephesians 2:1-3](#)

We believe the problem of sin is compounded by the presence and actions of evil spirits who have, like humanity, rebelled against the rule of God.

[Job 1:7](#), [Matthew 13:19](#), [Luke 11:24-26](#), [Ephesians 6:12](#)

We believe all sin comes with a *curse* that affects humanity both individually and *corporately* (the destructive consequences of sin accumulate and compound over time, causing even further destruction and an ever greater propensity toward sin).

[Genesis 15:16](#), [Exodus 20:5-6](#), [Romans 1:12-2:5](#)

We believe the curse of sin brings temporal and eternal destruction and death, making sinners enemies of God who is and emanates wholeness and life. This causes a terrible and increasing separation in the relationship between God and humanity.

[Jeremiah 7:15-16](#), [Daniel 9:14](#), [Matthew 25:30](#), [James 1:14](#), [James 4:4](#)

We believe the individual and corporate motives, thoughts and actions of the enemies of God compose a *defiant earthly dominion* (Biblically known as the kingdom of darkness or the kingdoms of this world).

[1 Corinthians 6:9-10](#), [Ephesians 2:1-2](#), [Colossians 1:13-14](#), [Revelation 19:15](#)

We believe that no human effort or attempt at being good is in any way sufficient to rectify this immense injustice.

[Daniel 9:5-11](#), [Romans 2:11-16](#), [Romans 3:19-28](#), [Galatians 3:2-5](#), [Ephesians 2:12](#), [1 John 1:8](#)

Adoption / Salvation

We believe God does not desire any person to be either temporarily or permanently estranged from Himself.

[John 3:16-17](#), [Acts 10:34-35](#), [Romans 10:11-13](#)

We believe Jesus came as *the King (who will reign forever)* of the Kingdom of God to invade the kingdom of darkness and to offer its *slaves (estranged, sinful people)* free citizenship in Jesus' Kingdom.

[Matthew 25:34](#), [John 18:33-37](#), [Galatians 4:4-7](#), [Ephesians 5:6-14](#)

We believe God the Father sent the Son through the Spirit to earth to become human and to repair the broken relationship people have with their heavenly Father.

[Matthew 1:20-23](#), [Luke 4:18-19](#), [1 Peter 2:9-10](#)

We believe God's plan to restore humanity by sending *Jesus (the Messiah)* as savior had been foretold by prophets, recorded in the Old Testament, since the beginning of written history.

[Genesis 3:15](#), [Luke 18:31](#), [Acts 3:18-21](#)

We believe Jesus made exclusive claims that He alone could take the full penalty of sin on Himself. He promised to do so for anyone who would trust Him as savior and accept His mastery and guidance over his or her life.

[John 10:14-18](#), [John 14:6](#), [Acts 4:12](#)

We believe Jesus accomplished this by dying a sinner's death, tortured and mocked on the cross.

[Romans 5:6-11](#), [Romans 8:2-3](#), [2 Corinthians 5:20-21](#), [Colossians 2:13-14](#), [1 Peter 2:21-25](#)

We believe Jesus rose from the dead three days later, as He had promised He would, proving He had accomplished what He claimed He could do for people.

[Mark 10:32-34](#), [Acts 17:2-3](#), [Acts 17:30-31](#), [1 Corinthians 15:1-4](#), [1 Corinthians 15:20-25](#), [1 Peter 1:3-5](#)

We believe that receiving Jesus as savior and master restores a person's temporal and eternal relationship with God.

[John 1:12](#), [Romans 8:15](#), [Romans 10:9-13](#), [2 Corinthians 6:18](#), [Galatians 4:5](#), [Ephesians 1:5](#), [1 Peter 5:10](#)

We believe baptism is the ceremony that publicly declares a person's acceptance of this offer.

[Matthew 28:19](#), [Acts 2:38-42](#), [Acts 8:12](#)

Restoration / Transformation

We believe Jesus taught His *followers (disciples)* to pattern their beliefs and actions after His teaching and example. These people came to be known as *Christians (Christian means a little Christ)*.

[Matthew 7:21-27](#), [Matthew 16:24-27](#), [Mark 8:34-38](#), [Luke 6:46](#), [Acts 11:26](#)

We believe Jesus instructed *Christians (His followers)* to abandon living for the approval of people, and instead to continually practice living a life of heartfelt loyalty and obedience to the God of the Bible. This includes treating others with the Christ-like love and respect God commands.

[Matthew 6:1](#), [Mark 12:29-31](#), [Romans 12:1-2](#), [Ephesians 4:17-24](#), [Ephesians 5:1-2](#)

We believe that Jesus described this lifestyle as a costly struggle, demanding a full commitment and a daily surrendering of immediate gratification.

[Matthew 10:24-25](#), [Luke 9:23](#), [Luke 14:27](#), [1 Corinthians 15:31](#), [Galatians 5:24](#), [Ephesians 5:6-10](#), [Titus 2:11-14](#)

We believe The Father and The Son sent the Holy Spirit to dwell within the followers of Jesus as a help and comfort in this struggle. The Holy Spirit enables them be continually transformed into a right reflection of God's image. This inner and active empowerment is called *grace (God's favor)*.

[Acts 11:21-24](#), [Acts 14:26](#), [Romans 8:5-11](#), [Galatians 5:16-17](#), [Ephesians 3:2](#), [Ephesians 3:7-8](#)

We believe this transformation allows Christians to live in faithful devotion to Christ in both "major" life decisions and events as well as in the "minor" routine details of everyday life.

[Romans 12:9-13](#), [2 Corinthians 11:2-3](#), [Colossians 3:12-17](#)

We believe *Jesus (the King)* is still bringing *His Kingdom (any place spirits and people are accepting His provision and Lordship)* to bear on the *kingdom of darkness (any place spirits and people in rebellion against God still hold sway)* through His empowered followers.

[John 16:13-15](#), [2 Corinthians 5:17-21](#), [1 Peter 2:11-12](#)

Community / Fellowship

We believe the Christian life was never meant to be lived in isolation; instead Christians are to meet regularly to encourage, embolden, instruct, and correct each other.

[1 Corinthians 12:25-27](#), [2 Timothy 4:1-5](#), [Ephesians 4:15-16](#), [Hebrews 10:22-25](#)

We believe the *restored family of God (the church)* is meant to be the greatest tangible proof of the reality of God's existence, character, and mission. *Jesus (the Head)* works primarily through *the church (His Body)* as the agent of His truth, justice, power, kindness, love and covenant.

[Acts 2:46-47](#), [Acts 9:31](#), [Ephesians 3:10-12](#), [1 Timothy 3:15](#)

We believe that God has provided for the care, guidance, correction, teaching, and equipping of the church through spiritual leaders whom He has entrusted with both authority and accountability—authority to carry out this *ministry (service)* and accountability before Him for how they do so.

[Ephesians 4:11-13](#), [1 Timothy 5:17-21](#), [Hebrews 13:17](#)

We believe it is the corporate duty of the *church (all the followers of Christ alive on earth)* to offer what *they have been given (restored relationship and empowered living)* to everyone who remains separated from God.

[Matthew 24:9-14](#), [Matthew 28:18-20](#), [Romans 10:9-15](#)

We believe *Jesus (the Groom)* longs to bring His *Holy Spirit filled church (the Bride)* to dwell with Him forever as *co-heirs (legitimate children inheriting the goodness of The Father)* with Him.

[Romans 8:16-17](#), [Ephesians 5:25-30](#), [Revelation 19:5-8](#)

Eternity / The Resurrection

We believe that whenever any person dies on earth, their spirit remains conscious and active—either with God in glory or in captivity and pain.

[Philippians 1:21-23](#), [Luke 16:28-31](#), [2 Corinthians 5:1-10](#), [1 Timothy 6:6-12](#)

We believe that all humanity will be resurrected with an eternal *body (substance containing the self)* and be judged for who they are.

[John 5:28-29](#), [Acts 24:15-16](#), [1 Corinthians 15:12-19](#), [1 Corinthians 15:50-57](#)

We believe *those who have a restored relationship with God (Jesus' followers)* will be joyously welcomed to the unending wonder of eternal life as The Father's Children, brothers and sisters with The Son, filled and overflowing with the Holy Spirit, constantly marveling at the greatness of God displayed in Himself, His Bride, and in their *glorious home (The New Earth in the New Heavens)*.

[Isaiah 65:17-19](#), [Revelation 21:1-5](#)

We believe *those who have died without accepting Jesus' offer (the lost)* will be eternally cast away from the presence and goodness of God into a *place of perpetual torment and destruction (created for the spiritual enemies of God who insisted on rebellion against Him)*.

[Matthew 25:41](#), [2 Thessalonians 1:7-9](#), [2 Peter 2:12-14](#), [Revelation 20:12-15](#)

We believe that every Christian will stand before God to be judged for what they have done on earth whether good or bad. The bad will all be burned away but the good will all be rewarded according to the judgment of God.

[1 Corinthians 3:11-15](#), [2 Corinthians 5:9-10](#), [Romans 14:10-12](#)

We believe Jesus taught that it is wise to live for and invest in these *rewards (which can never be taken away)*. Conversely, Jesus taught that living for or investing in *temporal (earthly)* rewards was, by comparison, a stupid thing to do.

[Matthew 6:19-20](#), [Luke 12:16-21](#)

Included / Beloved

We believe that accepting the gospel is open to everyone God desires to save from destruction and to restore eternally to Himself.

[Acts 2:38-39](#)

We believe that God desires for absolutely every person to be saved and restored.

[1 Timothy 2:3-6](#), [2 Peter 3:9](#)