

## **Sojourn City Church Statement of Faith**

### **1. THE SCRIPTURES INSPIRED**

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct.

2 Timothy 3:15-17  
1 Thessalonians 2:13  
2 Peter 1:21

### **2. THE ONE TRUE GOD**

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Deuteronomy 6:4  
Isaiah 43:10-11  
Matthew 28:19  
Luke 3:22

### **3. THE DEITY OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare His virgin birth, His miracles, His substitutionary work on the cross, His bodily resurrection from the dead, and His exaltation to the right hand of God.

Matthew 1:23; 28:6  
Luke 1:31, 35; 24:39  
Hebrews 1:3; 7:26  
1 Peter 2:22  
Acts 1:9, 11; 2:22, 33; 10:38  
1 Corinthians 15:3-4  
2 Corinthians 5:21  
Philippians 2:9-11

### **4. THE FALL OF MAN**

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our own image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God.

Genesis 1:26-27; 2:17; 3:6

Romans 5:12-19

## 5. THE SALVATION OF MAN

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Luke 24:47

John 3:3

Romans 8:16; 10:13-15

Ephesians 2:8; 4:24

Titus 2:11-12; 3:5-7

## 6. THE ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

### BAPTISM IN WATER

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded by the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life.

Matthew 28:19

Mark 16:16

Acts 10:47-48

Romans 6:4

### HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements--bread and the fruit of the vine--is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4), a memorial of his suffering and death (1 Corinthians 11:26), and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 11:26), and is enjoined on all believers "till He come!"

## 7. THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the gift of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry. This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of salvation. With the baptism in the Holy Spirit come such experiences as: an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8); a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28); an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work (Acts 2:42); and a more active love for Christ, for His Word and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

Luke 24:49

Acts 1:4, 8; 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9

1 Corinthians 12:1-31

## 8. THE INITIAL PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance. The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues, but it is different in purpose and use.

Acts 2:4

1 Corinthians 12:4-10; 28

## 9. SANCTIFICATION

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God. The Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." By the power of the Holy Spirit we are able to obey the command: "Be ye holy, for I am holy." Sanctification is realized by the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by the faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 6:1-11, 13; 8:1-2, 13; 12:1-2

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Hebrews 12:14; 13:12

1 Peter 1:15-16

Galatians 2:20

Philippians 2:12-13

1 Peter 1:5

## 10. THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the Firstborn, which are written in heaven. Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshipped by man, to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, and to demonstrate His love and compassion for all the world, the priority reason for being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is: to be an agency of God for evangelizing the world; to be a corporate body in which man may worship God; to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son; to be a people who demonstrate God's love and compassion for all the world. The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason for being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience: enables them to evangelize in the power of

the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs; adds a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God; enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ and care for the poor and needy of the world.

Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:22; 4:11-16

Hebrews 2:3-4; 12:23

Acts 1:8; 4:29-31

Matthew 25:37-40; 28:19-20

Mark 16:15-20

1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 12-14; 14:12

Psalms 112:9

Galatians 2:10; 5:22-26; 6:10

Colossians 1:29

## 11. THE MINISTRY

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the fourfold purpose of leading the Church in: evangelization of the world; worship of God; building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son; meeting human need with ministries of love and compassion.

Mark 16:15-20

John 4:23-24

Ephesians 4:11-16

Psalms 112:9

Galatians 2:10; 6:10

James 1:27

## 12. DIVINE HEALING

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement, and is the privilege of all believers.

Isaiah 53:4-5

Matthew 8:16-17

James 5:14-16

## 13. THE BLESSED HOPE

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the church.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17  
Romans 8:23  
Titus 2:13  
1 Corinthians 15:51-52

#### 14. THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on earth for one thousand years. This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel and the establishment of universal peace.

Zechariah 14:5  
Matthew 24:27, 30  
Revelation 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:1-6  
Ezekiel 37:21-22  
Zephaniah 3:19-20  
Romans 11:26-27  
Isaiah 11:6-9  
Psalms 72:3-8  
Micah 4:3-4

#### 15. THE FINAL JUDGMENT

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to the everlasting punishment in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

Matthew 25:46  
Mark 9:43-48  
Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8

#### 16. THE NEW HEAVENS AND THE NEW EARTH

"We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth wherein righteousness dwells."

2 Peter 3:13  
Revelation 21-22