

covenant

#LOVELIVELEAD — #DOINGLIFETOGETHER — #DOLIKEWISE

WE BELIEVE:

The Holy Bible is God's written revelation and His gift to mankind. We believe the original documents were verbally inspired by God in every word and detail, and are absolutely Inerrant. We affirm the infallibility, sufficiency, and authority of Scripture.

WE BELIEVE:

The Bible reveals there is only One true and living God, who is infinite and all-knowing, perfect in all His attributes, one in essence, who eternally exists in three Persons; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

WE BELIEVE:

In the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible reveals Jesus is the eternal Son of God; humbled Himself and became a man by means of the Virgin Birth. The atonement, the covering for our sins, was made by the sacrificial and substitutional death of Jesus Christ on the cross at Calvary - the purpose for which He was sent into the world and accomplished. He is the ONLY acceptable sacrifice for our sin and therefore the ONLY way to receiving forgiveness, and eternal life from God. We believe in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed Blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and His personal return in power and glory in which He will establish His kingdom visibly on earth.

WE BELIEVE:

The Holy Spirit is the Promise of the Father, and our current Comforter, whom Jesus sent into the world; who convicts man of sin and baptizes each believer into the Body of Christ. The Holy Spirit indwells, fills, leads, and guides believers in their life and ministry. He bestows spiritual gifts, which are God-given supernatural talents and abilities, to every born-again believer for the benefit and edification of the body of Christ.

WE BELIEVE:

God created man in His own image and did not evolve. Through disobedience to God's will he sinned; and as a result, the entire human race is fallen, has inherited the sin nature, separated from God, and will face eternal judgment apart from salvation through Jesus Christ.

WE BELIEVE:

Salvation is the gift of God, by His grace alone, and can only be received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; and that a person who has received such grace will be confirmed through their desire to live a life that endeavors to please God.

WE BELIEVE:

All who put their faith in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins are immediately placed by the Holy Spirit into one, united spiritual body, and are called to belong to a local church - of which Christ is the Head. The purpose of the Church is to glorify God by building its members up in the faith, through Instruction of the Word, through fellowship, through keeping the ordinances of the church, and through communicating and advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the entire world. During His earthly ministry, Jesus taught that the Church belonged to Him and the scriptures declare it was purchased through His blood sacrifice on the cross. The Church began on the Day of Pentecost and Jesus will come for His church, called the rapture, before the coming Tribulation period.

WE BELIEVE:

The ordinances of the church, by the command of Christ, are 1) Water Baptism by immersion, and 2) the Lord's Supper, both of which are administered to those who are born again and followers of Christ. Water baptism is a public profession of faith in Christ and a beautiful picture of what Christ did for us in salvation. The Lord's Supper is a remembrance of Jesus Christ's death on the cross and, as a local church, we partake of it together monthly.

WE BELIEVE:

In a coming seven-year period of tribulation during which the judgments of God will be poured out upon the unbelieving world. These judgments will climax with the return of Jesus Christ to earth in His glory. At this time Jesus will establish a thousand-year reign and Israel will be fully restored to their land. At the end of Jesus' thousand-year reign, the unsaved dead will be raised and face eternal punishment. The saved will enter the eternal state of glory with God.

WE BELIEVE:

In the sanctity of marriage as delineated in the Scripture. As such, we believe that marriage was ordained by God between one biological man and one biological woman. Furthermore, we believe that God disapproves and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender or appearance of gender through surgery or hormone treatment. Additionally, we believe that the Bible forbids sex outside of the marriage covenant. Christ Community Church is committed to upholding the teachings and beliefs of the Holy Bible, God's Word. This commitment shall be upheld in every area of ministry.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

The church is a unique community of people called out of the world for God's plans and purposes. The familial aspect of the church is understood in the amount of times we see the term "one another" used in the New Testament. We love each other, we're friends with each other, we eat together, we celebrate the birth of our children together, we're there for each other in times of loss and pain, we share with each other, etc.; in short, we do life together. Believers should be 'belongers'. You can't be a spectator in the Body of Christ, so Christ Community Church should be a place where people know and are known. One of the main reasons for our Community Groups is that you would come to know others in the church and others will come to know you.

Every church has a mission and that mission is rooted in the Great Commission of making disciples of all nations. But every church also has a Vision. Our Vision can be summed up in one statement and three words.

That statement is "Doing Life Together" and the three words are Loving, Living, and Leading. "Doing Life Together" highlights the truth that the church is a community of tight-knit "people of faith" living together with a set of values that are rooted in God's Word and in opposition to the world's values. Our desire is that people at CCC would develop and grow in three areas- Loving, Living, and Leading. By doing so we will fulfill both The Great Commission and The Great Commandment.

• LOVE

Love God

Matthew 22:37-38 Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment.

This speaks of the intimacy that we, as believers, pursue through our desire to understand and know the Lord in an ever-deepening way. One of the primary ways we build intimacy with God is growing in our understanding of His Word, through obeying His commands out of a pure heart, and regular and frequent communion with Him through prayer.

Love our Neighbor

Matthew 22:39- the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

Our neighbor isn't the person who is most expedient to us, but is that person who is most needful of us. Jesus made this clear in His parable of the Good Samaritan when He was asked by a scribe, "who is my neighbor."

Love One Another

John 13:34-35- A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

Church is not a building we go to on Sunday mornings, and it is not an organization that is rigid; it is a living organism where God's love is the glue that sets it apart from the rest of the world and every other human institution that exists. The Holy Spirit is crucial in the manifestation of this kind of love, for we know that "the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit that was given to us" (Rom. 5:5).

Love our City

Jeremiah 29:7 And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace.

In the verses preceding this verse the Lord instructs His people, through the prophet Jeremiah, to pretty much make the place a better place than when they arrived. Christ Community Church is bent on loving our city, which we've seen played out in ministries such as New Creations and KYAM, giving of food to those in need, the "Well" where needy people are able to get clothing, the afterschool program the youth are running. We also see this in things like our Probation/District Attorney appreciation lunches, or gift cards during Christmas for foster kids and those in Juvenile Hall.

Love our World

John 3:16, For God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son....

It doesn't say, "For God so loved the Imperial Valley" although He does, nor say, "For God so loved the United States" although He does; it says, "He so loved the world..." It's important that we as a church maintain a global vision. It's my conviction, tethered to scripture, that every local church needs to have a global vision. This comes in the way of supporting missions through finances and prayers, short and long-term missions trips, and even sending missionaries out. Christ Community Church has seen some of this through launching John and Alicia to Mexicali, our mission trips to Thailand, and our mission trips to Haiti, New Creations Thailand.

• LIVE

Live out our faith among one another

Our faith is lived out on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights as we gather together for corporate worship, through community groups that meet in homes during the week, and other smaller gatherings where we can exercise the gifts that God has blessed us with. The Holy Spirit gifts individuals as "He wills" in order to build up the body, which only happens when we live out our faith among one another. 1 Corinthians 12:7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Live out our faith among the unbelieving world. (1 Thess. 1:8)

Our faith is to be made known throughout the unbelieving world. This means our faith is lived out, not only at church or our homes but the public square- the marketplace if you will. People should know we're Christians and why, whether we're at the workplace, coaching soccer, sitting on the PTA, in the classroom, etc., etc. Our faith is not a dead faith, it's a living faith grounded in the Word of God. We live in a fallen world tainted with sin and ruled by the powers of darkness. People need to know the way God always intended life to be lived and how to be overcomers as presented in His Word.

Matthew 28:19-20

Live out our faith in light of eternity.

The people of God are people who are willing to sacrifice the present on the altar of the future. This entails sacrificial giving of our time, treasure, and talents for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus. We believe that whatever sacrifices we make, and suffering we endure, for the kingdom of God pales in comparison to our future home with Jesus.

Romans 8:18

We firmly believe that our lives here are short as James so vividly states, "yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes" (James 4:14). Christians are to live out their "little time" on earth in a way that reflects a solid belief in the promises of God that will yet be fulfilled in the future. Men and women burned at the stake because of this kind of faith.

• LEAD

Lead in our homes.

God has called us to lead our homes the way He originally designed it. This includes the role of men as priests, providers, and protectors; the high calling of women as wives and mothers guided by the Word; and the children's role beginning with honoring their parents. This is becoming increasingly more important as we see the attack on families and gender identity.

Ephesians 5:22-6:4

Lead in our churches.

The Lord's intention for His people is they become more than attendees at a local church, He desires them to become leaders. This may entail formal positions of leadership, or simply leading through an exemplified life of what it means to walk with Jesus. The misperception of the American Church is that a pastor leads and everyone follows. But according to scripture pastors are equippers, not the "do-all" in ministry.

Ephesians 4:11-16

Lead in our communities.

The church is not just a place where people get blessed, but, in the spirit of the call of Abraham, a people that bless the community and world it exists in. The leadership of God's people should spill over into the communities we live our daily lives in. We know that our communities would be a better place if they were led by God-fearing servants of the Lord. If God's people were more visible in leadership positions- senate, congress, school boards, city councils, etc., our communities would benefit dramatically.

Matthew 5:13-16

To become leaders in our home, churches, and communities we need to become mature followers of Jesus Christ. A person is unable to lead from God's perspective if they aren't students of the Word of God and established a powerful prayer life. So we place great emphasis on teaching and learning God's Word and encouraging people to build a prayer life that fosters an intimate relationship with God and penetrates the darkness that has overtaken our world.

Hebrews 5:12-14

God's Word is the source where Christians learn their identity in Christ, their values to live by, and the answers to an unbelieving world that is filled with evil and confusion.

Ephesians 6:18-19

This verse only contains 3 words but should be taken to heart if we are to remain in the will of God and become what Jesus sees for His church.

As a church, we are called to fulfill both the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. This results from Gospel-centered living. It is only the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit that can transform our hearts to enable and empower us to love, live and lead in a way that pleases God and offers hope to a dark and lost world.