

Estacada First Baptist Church
Statement of Faith

The Bible:

We believe the Bible (Old and New Testament) is the inspired Word of God, inerrant in the original writings, complete as the revelation of God's will for salvation, and the supreme and final authority in all matters to which it speaks.

II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:20-21; Psalm 19:7-11; Hebrews 1:11; Matthew 5:17-19; I Thessalonians 2:13

Creation:

We accept the Genesis account of creation and believe that man came by direct creation of God.

Genesis 1-2; Colossians 1:16-17; John 1:1-3

The Trinity:

We believe in one true God, existing eternally in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The three Persons are equal in power and majesty, yet performing distinct but harmonious functions.

II Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 2:18; Isaiah 6:8; Deuteronomy 6:4;
Genesis 1:26-27, 3:22, 11:7; Matthew 3:13-17; John 10

God, The Father:

We believe that God the Father is sovereign of all the created universe, and that He is holy, under no constraints or other authority. He does what He pleases, when and how He pleases, and that His purpose for creation is to display His glory and name.

Isaiah 14:24-27, 29:15-16, 43:6-7, 46:8-10, 55:8-9; Romans 9; I Samuel 2:2;
Daniel 4:35; Revelation 4:11

God, The Son, Jesus Christ:

We believe that Jesus Christ is God's eternal Son, and has the same nature and attributes as God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. He is not only fully God, but fully man, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. We believe in His sinless life, His substitutionary atonement, His bodily resurrection from the dead, His ascension into heaven, His priestly intercession on behalf of His people, and His personal, visible, premillennial return from Heaven.

John 1:14; Luke 1:26-35; Acts 1:11, 2:22-36; Hebrews 1:1-4

God, The Holy Spirit:

We believe in the Holy Spirit, His personality, and His work in regeneration, sanctification, and preservation of His people. His ministry is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and implement Christ's work of redeeming the lost and empowering the believer for Godly living and service.

John 3:5-8, 14:16-18, 16:7-14; Ephesians 1:13-14; I Corinthians 6:11

Spiritual Gifts:

We believe that God chooses which gifts to give each believer. God can gift any person as He desires to fulfill His sovereign plan. Since the establishing of the church and the completion of the New Testament we believe that speaking in tongues and other sign gifts no longer hold a *prominent* position or purpose. We do not judge either the salvation experience or earnestness of those who believe otherwise.

Romans 12:1-8; I Corinthians 1:22, 12:4-11, 13:8, 14:20-22; II Corinthians 12:12;
Ephesians 4:7-12; Hebrews 2:4

The Church:

We believe that the Church is the spiritual body of which Christ is the head and is composed of all persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit. This body expresses itself in local assemblies whose members have made a credible confession of faith and have associated themselves for worship, instruction, evangelism, and service. We also believe in the interdependence of local churches and

mutual submission of Christians to each other in love. We believe these local assemblies have the right of self-government and self-discipline free from the interference of any hierarchy of individual or organization.

Ephesians 1:22, 5:21; Colossians 1:18, 24; I Corinthians 1:2, 4:17, 16:1; II Corinthians 5:17, 8:23-24; Romans 6: 3-5, 16:5; II Thessalonians 1:1; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:47, 11:26

Church Ordinances:

We believe that Jesus Christ instituted the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper (communion) to be kept only by born again believers who understand their condition before God and stand accountable before Him. A believer is to be baptized by immersion as an outward sign of an inward work of grace by the Holy Spirit. The Lord's Supper or communion is to be observed continually until He comes.

Acts 8:34-39; Romans 4:10-22; Matthew 28:19; I Corinthians 11:23-29

Satan:

We believe that Lucifer was a spiritual creation of God, who rebelled, and became Satan, placing himself in conflict with his Creator. He is hateful and cunning, intending to destroy God's creation and usurp God's sovereign role. Although he is extremely powerful, he does not have God-like attributes, therefore, does not control or know human thought as God does. He achieves his purposes and control in numerous ways. His primary means are temptation and deception. The believer, however, has the choice to succumb to Satan's schemes or he can submit to God and resist the Devil. Satan has already been defeated by our Lord's death and resurrection and is destined for eternal judgment.

Isaiah 14:3-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19; Revelation 20:10; Matthew 4:1-11
II Corinthians 6:14-15, 11:13-15; James 1:12-15

The Condition of Man:

We believe all people are sinners by nature and choice are spiritually dead. All men have sinned and come short of God's glory and are therefore under just condemnation, without excuse or defense. They are destined for Hell for eternity.

Romans 3:9-19, 3:23, 8:5-8; Isaiah 53:6; II Thessalonians 1:7-9

Salvation:

We believe in salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. This salvation is based upon the sovereign grace of God, and was purchased by Christ's death on the cross, and completed by His bodily resurrection for our justification. Jesus took upon Himself the punishment for the sins of the world. We believe that the Holy Spirit regenerates those who repent of sin and trust Jesus Christ as Savior. This salvation is received through faith apart from any human merit, works, or ritual. We are saved forever and nothing can separate us from God's love. We are eternally, spiritually shielded and we can never, nor will God ever bring about a separation between the believer and Himself. We believe salvation results in righteous living, good works, and proper social concern.

Hebrews 5:9, 10:10, 10:14-18; Romans 8:38-39, 12:1-2; John 10:27-29; I Peter 1:3-5;
II Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 5:22-26

The purpose of Man:

We believe that the primary and most important purpose of man is to worship God through our *daily* relationship with Him, and to bring glory to Him forever.

Genesis 3:8; Isaiah 43:6-7; I Peter 2:9; Ephesians 1:3-6, 3:10-12; 3:20-21, 6:11-12

Christian Growth:

As believers, we are in an ongoing process of becoming more like Christ in our actions and attitudes. This process continually sets us apart from the world of sin, to the purpose of God in our lives. We actually share and participate in God's holiness, as the Holy Spirit is active in our lives. The believer's practice of the Christian disciplines is essential to this progress. The continuous result is a life increasingly reflective of the character of God.

Philippians 2:12-15, 3:12-14; Ephesians 4:11-16; II Peter 1:2-11

Christian Behavior:

In view of the fact that we are a set apart people, chosen of God for His glory, we are to be holy and have purity of life. We believe that we must be obedient to God, followers of Christ, setting a standard of purity not only for the sake of our brothers/sisters in Christ, but also for the world around us, for we are called to be reconcilers and ambassadors.

I Peter 1:13-16, 2:9; Ephesians 1:3-14, 4:1; II Peter 3:11, 3:14, 3:17-18; Philippians 1:27;
I Corinthians 8; II Corinthians 5:18-21

Civil Government:

We believe that civil government has been appointed by God to provide for the interests and good order of society. We are to pray for those in authority over us and to honor and obey them except in things opposed to the will of God.

Matthew 22:22; Isaiah 9:6; Romans 13:1-7; I Peter 2:13-17; Acts 4:19-20; Daniel 3:17-18

Eternal State of Man:

We believe that at death believers depart to be with Christ, there to live with Him in conscious joy and worship forever. All believers will be recompensed according to how they lived their lives. At death unbelievers are forever banished from the presence of God into hell in a conscious condition of terrible remorse and punishment.

II Corinthians 5:8; John 14:1-3; Luke 16:19-26; II Thessalonians 1:6-9; Revelation 5:11-14, 20:11-15

Last Things:

We believe that the last days of God's plan for mankind will include the following major events: The rapture of the church, a time of great tribulation, the bodily return of Christ to establish His kingdom on earth for one thousand years, God's ultimate and final declaration of victory over all His foes including Satan. (See Eternal State of Man section)

I Corinthians 15:50-54; I Thessalonians 4:13-17, 5:9-10; Acts 1:9-11; Daniel 2:44, 7:27, 9:24-27, 12:1-2;
Matthew 24:16-46; Revelation 20:1-10, 21:1-27

This expression of the doctrinal position of Estacada First Baptist Church is by no means exhaustive. The beliefs and teaching of the church go far beyond this simple statement in that we hold the Bible in its totality to be the Word of God and it is our aim to proclaim the "whole counsel of God." This brief statement is intended to convey our fundamental position regarding a few of the basic Bible truths.