

Beliefs & Doctrine



According to the writer of the book of Hebrews, Believers should grow to the point where they can clearly articulate and teach the fundamental principles of God's word.

"For though by this time you ought to be teachers [because of the time you have had to learn these truths], you actually need someone to teach you again the elementary principles of God's word [from the beginning], and you have come to be continually in need of milk, not solid food." (Hebrews 5:12)

"Therefore let us get past the elementary stage in the teachings about the Christ, advancing on to maturity and perfection and spiritual completeness, [doing this] without laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of teaching about washings (ritual purifications), the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. [These are all important matters in which you should have been proficient long ago.] And we will do this [that is, proceed to maturity], if God permits." (Hebrews 6: 1-3)

These are the Elementary Principles that are taught in the Fruitful Life Learning Community.

We Believe.....

[The Bible](#) is the Divinely breathed Word of God. It is the supreme authority and master guide for all matters dealing with faith and daily living. The Bible is the documented evidence of God's love and redemption of mankind.

[The One True and Living God](#) is infinite, co-existing in three infinite persons – the Father, the Son (who is the Word made flesh) and the Holy Spirit. God is totally and eternally loving, holy, righteous, all powerful, all knowing, all wise, and present everywhere and everywhen; the creator, ruler and redeemer of all mankind and the entire universe.

[Jesus Christ](#) (aka Yeshua the Messiah) is both genuinely God and truly man. He came to reveal and reconcile humankind to Father God. As Holy Scripture states, He (Christ) was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He was and is the true and only Messiah; begotten and sent of God the Father. He lived a perfectly sinless life and died on the cross as the only acceptable substitute and sacrifice for the sin of every person. He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father, reigning and interceding as our risen Lord, coming King, loving High Priest and Advocate. He is the fullness of the Godhead bodily, the head of the Church, the first born of many brethren, and superior in rank and strength to all principalities and powers.

[The Person and Ministry of the Holy Spirit](#) is just as scripture reveals and states: Among other manifestations, He convicts, draws, enlightens, indwells, guides, teaches and empowers the born-again believer to intimately communicate with and know Father God, and to consistently glorify Jesus Christ. Every born-again believer has the opportunity to enhance their Christian walk by being filled with the Holy Spirit, which can be evidenced by their ability to live in continuous surrender and loving obedience to God and His Word (the Bible), and/ or the ability to pray and operate in spiritual gifts.

[Man was created and made by God](#), from God Himself and the 'dust of the earth' (Genesis 1:26-28) primarily for God's glory (Eph. 1), and to know and fellowship with God intimately. Further, we believe that God, in creating man in His image and likeness, sets forth the distinctive qualitative difference between man and God, man and animals, and man and plant life. (Genesis 1:26)

[Sin and evil separated God and mankind](#) when the first human beings willfully disobeyed Father God (Genesis 3). The result was the disconnection of mankind from the relationship and harmony previously known and experienced with God. This action also produced a fallen world (all natural and spiritual existence), and multi-generational consequences within human beings, since mankind opened the door for disease, disorders, dysfunctions, division, depravity, destruction, disasters (natural, accidental, intentional or incidents of loss), pain, suffering and death (natural and spiritual), and demonic influence, intimidation and dominance to become part of the human experience on planet Earth.

[Salvation](#) is God's granting of *deliverance* and *preservation* from the **penalty**, the **power** and ultimately the very **presence** of sin. Only through repentance, claiming and relying completely and solely upon the Lord Jesus Christ, His work accomplished through the shedding of His blood at Calvary, and His resurrection, can one legitimately be *declared*, *placed* and *kept* in proper relationship with God.

[The security of the born again believer](#) is based solely upon the finished work at Calvary. We believe in the **Justification** of the believer, which is God granting mankind His righteousness (right standing) through His forgiveness and pardoning of sin. We believe in **Sanctification**, which is the process of renewing our thoughts and responses to life as we grow in grace and the knowledge of Jesus Christ. We believe in **Glorification**, which is a revealing and manifestation of what has taken place in the heart and life of one who has been justified and is being sanctified.

[The Believer's life of Purity](#) is God's commanded behavior, resulting from the new indwelling nature birthed and enabled by the Holy Spirit. The life of Holiness is not optional. The life of Purity is expected and essential.

[The True Church](#) as defined by God's Word, is the massive group of individuals world-wide, who have been "called-out" of satanic dominion and control, and birthed by the Holy Spirit into the Kingdom of His (God's) Dear Son! (Colossians 1 and I Timothy 3:15). A local Church (gathering of Believers) should be a microcosm or tangible and visible expression of what God is saying and doing globally through His people (Ephesians 4).

We acknowledge our rights under Christ, the Head of the Church, along with the provisions of the United States constitution, to govern our own ministry and personal affairs in alignment with the principles of the Bible, and to submit to those persons and laws only where they are consistent and harmonious with Biblical guidelines. We will never attempt to force or coerce anyone into our Beliefs, Practices, Convictions and Values; and we reserve the right **to not be forced** into accepting or participating in any Beliefs, Practices, Convictions or Values that contradict with the Holy Scriptures (the Bible).

[Holy Communion](#) - We take the Lord's Supper in a reverent and humble attitude as Christ commanded. This simple act, which involves individual self-examination, keeps us in remembrance of the what our Lord and Savior has done for us. (1 Cor. 11:23-29).

[Financial Giving to Support the Work of the Ministry](#) - We believe in the 'first-fruits' expression of giving as encouraged in Proverbs 3: 9: Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the first-fruits of all your increase.

Financial giving is not a scheme by man. It is part of how we worship. Giving cheerfully and sacrificially of our finances and other assets is an opportunity to demonstrate good stewardship of what God has given us. One of the primary ways we express our gratitude to God and dependence upon God is by our generosity. When we give in this manner, we honor God, and we acknowledge the priority of His agenda above our own.

We believe that we should give, not by merely meeting an obligatory percentage, but to give according to the example of how the ministry of Christ was supported, and the way the 1st-century church was instructed; giving according to one's income and according to what God has put in one's heart. ([See Teaching Videos: Disconnecting Financial Contributions from the Fear of Compulsion, Corruption and Curses](#))

We are not denouncing the practice of tithing. We are confronting the motivation in our hearts when it comes to giving money. Returning tithes and giving offerings are not done to get God to bless us, but they are done to acknowledge the reality that God has already blessed us.

[The Kingdom of God](#) is the righteous rule and reign of God established and operative in the hearts and affairs of human beings. It is both "now and not yet" fully come. The Holy Spirit uses the Church to announce, instruct about, and birth people into the Kingdom of God. The message and culture of the Kingdom of God constitutes the frame of reference to be discovered and lived in, once one has been born again.

Faith - is a lifestyle for Believers. It will always involve receiving insight FROM God, agreement WITH God and ultimately, obedience TO God. (Hebrews 11) It is never a blind leap into the dark. It is a step that is taken, based upon what God has revealed to a person, a family, a group, or a nation.

The goal of the true disciple of Jesus Christ is more than making it to heaven. It is to live one's life to the glory of God and the good pleasure of HIS will. (Ephesians 1, 1 Timothy 1).

Believers are also called to live in such a way, so as to be effective in this life and prepared for the after life; to live in a such a way so as to obtain imperishable crowns (distinctions) which are to be presented to those who faithfully served Christ in this life. (1 Corinthians 9: 4-27, 2 Timothy 2:5, James 1:12)

Also see <https://www.fruitfullifelearningcommunity.org/beliefs>