

6. FORMS & APPENDICES

Appendix A: Doctrinal Statement

The following doctrinal statement represents the beliefs that will be taught at CCA.⁸

About the Bible

- We believe that the Bible is a supernatural book (Hebrews 4:12), inspired by God and written down by human authors. We believe that the Bible, all 66 books of the Old and New Testament, is God's Word—His instruction book for life (2 Timothy 3:16-17), and is without error in its original manuscripts, having been preserved by God for our enlightenment, encouragement and edification (Romans 15:4).

About God

- We believe that there is one true being of God who exists in a perfect relationship of three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who each exist co-equally and co-eternally (Matthew 28:19).
- We believe in God the Father (Matthew 6:9), the first person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14). We believe that as Creator, He is Sovereign over all the universe, has acted in and throughout history, determining times, dates and seasons (Acts 17:24-27). We also believe that God is a loving Father to everyone who is saved through faith in Jesus Christ (John 1:12-13, 1 John 3:1, 4:8-10).
- We believe that Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. We believe that the world was created for Him and through Him (John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:15-17). We believe that He came to our world as a human being in order to show us what God is like, to reveal God's truth to us, and provide us with salvation from sin. Though He lived a perfect life, He was crucified, taking the death penalty that we deserved for our sin. On the third day, He rose from the dead, proving that He was victorious over sin and death, and after ascending to the Father (Acts 1:9), is sitting at the right hand of God, reigning as King till His return (Hebrews 1:2-3).
- We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity and is equal with the Father and the Son. He was involved in Creation (Gen 1:2) and inspired men to write the Scriptures (2 Peter 1:19-21). His ministry is to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgement (John 16:8), to bring new life to those who believe (John 3:3-8), to guide believers into all truth (John 16:13), to empower believers to be witnesses (Acts 1:8), to grant believers spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12), and to glorify Jesus by making the believers more and more like Jesus in character, through the process of Sanctification (Galatians 5:22-23, Hebrews 10:14).

About Creation

- We believe that the triune God has created the entire universe supernaturally, and that a literal six-day interpretation of the creation account best fits with the context of the whole of Scripture. (Genesis 1, John 1:1-3) Through the Creation, God's eternal power and divine nature have been clearly revealed (Romans 1:20).

⁸ This statement has been adopted from Gorrie Bible Fellowship (2024).

CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

- We believe that angels are created beings, who worship (Rev 5:11) and serve God. (Heb 1:14). We believe that Satan was a powerful angel who rebelled against God and was thrown out of heaven (Isaiah 14:12-15, Revelation 12:8-9). He now operates in this world as God's enemy along with numerous fallen angels called demons. (Ephesians 6:1-12). Though he is capable of much evil, he can only act within the limits God permits (Job 1:12,2:6, Mark 5:1-13). His final judgement is certain (Revelation 20:10).
- We believe that humans are God's highest creation, and are distinct from the animal kingdom, because unlike the animals, God made humans in His own image, to reign, as His representatives, filling and subduing the earth. (Genesis 1:26-28) We also believe that God made two distinct sexes: male and female who are equal in value and complimentary in role, and that marriage was created and designed by God.

About Sin and Salvation

- We believe that sin and death came into the world when Adam and Eve disobeyed God's righteous decree (Romans 5:12). We believe that sin includes any thought, attitude, action or word that fails to meet or violates God's perfect standard. We believe that everyone has sinned (Romans 3:23, 5:12). We believe that for our sin, we deserve death (Romans 6:23), which is eternal punishment and separation from God (2 Thessalonians 1:9)
- We believe that salvation is a gift that is freely offered to everyone through Jesus and His death for us. This salvation can only be received by faith—it cannot be earned by religious works (Ephesians 2:8-9). Those who trust Christ for salvation are "born again." Their sins are forgiven and they are brought into a relationship with God (Romans 5:1).
- We believe that those who are truly born again will demonstrate the reality of their new birth by the perseverance of their faith (John 5:24). Others who profess to know Christ but ultimately fall away, demonstrate that they were never truly born again in the first place (Matthew 24:13).

About the Church

- We believe that there is one true Church made up of all true believers, past and present, who have received salvation in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 4:4).
- We believe that all true believers have been joined together in the body of Christ and should endeavour to maintain and demonstrate the unity of Christ's body across denominational, ethnic and geographical lines (Ephesians 4:3).
- We believe that a local Church is an expression of the universal church in a specific location (1 Corinthians 1:2).
- We believe that those who trust Christ should be baptized as a public testimony of their faith in obedience to Christ, (Matthew 28:19-20) and then should regularly join together with a local church to remember His life and death through the sharing of Communion (1 Cor 11:24-25).
- We believe that every true believer in Jesus has been given spiritual gifts as well as other talents and resources. Although never perfect in this life, we have the responsibility to use these gifts, talents and resources in the church, our homes, community and vocation, to bless others and glorify God (1 Peter 4:10, John 15:8, Colossians 3:17,22).

CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

- We believe that men and women are equal but just as the members of the Trinity have different functions within the Godhead, so in the church, men and women do not function identically (1 Corinthians 11:3). The roles of Elder and Deacon are to be filled by men (1 Timothy 3:2,12) and public teaching is to be done by men (1 Timothy 2:12). However, women are encouraged to serve the Lord alongside men in a variety of ways including: sharing of the Gospel, participation in the leading of congregational singing, leading of other programs/committees, giving of announcements, Scripture reading, teaching of children and women, building care, and all other functions of the body. We believe that a healthy body of believers includes both men and women who labour together in the sharing of the gospel and the caring of the congregation.
- We believe that the church is commissioned to call all the nations into the great Salvation that Christ offers (Matthew 28:18-20), by living out a biblical worldview, and sharing the gospel of God's saving grace in Jesus. (1 Peter 3:15)

About End Times

- We believe that Jesus is coming back physically and visibly to this world at the appointed time (Matt 24:36). When He returns, those who have trusted Jesus Christ will spend eternity with Him (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18) in His Eternal Kingdom (Revelation 21-22). Those who have rejected Jesus Christ will be judged and will face eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9, Revelation 20:15).

About Marriage

- We believe that marriage was created and designed by God to be enjoyed by one man and one woman for life. We believe that the only proper place for sexual activity to be enjoyed is in this marriage covenant. We believe that healthy marriage is the foundation for healthy homes and a healthy society. (Gen 1-2) While sin has twisted this relationship (Gen 3:16,17, Matt 19:7-8), as Christians we are called, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to walk faithfully and celebrate this great gift in its original design. We believe that Marriage is meant to reflect the relationship between Christ and the Church (Eph 5:22-33)

About Sexuality

- While there is much confusion about the topic of sexuality in our culture, we believe that God has made it quite simple. He designed two sexes that are complementary and compatible, male and female (Gen 1:26-27). We believe that only these two sexes, which are biologically determined by God at conception and humanly recognized at birth, should be celebrated and maintained. Nevertheless, we are called to love all people enough to walk with them on the pathway to spiritual, relational and sexual freedom in Christ.