

Restoration Church was formed from a call by God to be a disciple-making church that makes disciples of Jesus by restoring people to God, each other, and purpose. We desire to be a loving family, and to live out the message of Jesus by being unified and loving one another in such a way that the world will know that we are His disciples (John 13:35; John 17:21-22). Our church leadership and members are to be unified on essential doctrines while permitting differing opinions on nonessential doctrines. **Therefore, to preserve unity, our Statements of Faith will speak to those essential doctrines.**

### **1. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: GOD**

We believe that there is one true, perfect God. God eternally exists as one God in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Bible also clearly teaches that there is only one God (not three Gods). We understand these three persons to share the exact one and only divine nature. The term often used to describe this is "Trinity". These three are co-equal and are one God, and therefore, God is by nature a relational God who enjoys loving fellowship within the Godhead. We believe that in the beginning, God created the universe out of nothing ("ex nihilo") and by His power He sustains the Universe and all that is in it. God is sovereign over all His creation and has been working out His plan since the beginning of creation.

**Supportive Scripture:** Genesis 1:1, 1:26-27, 3:22; Deuteronomy 6:4; Job 38, 39, & 40; Psalm 90:2, 139:1-4, 139:7-10; Isaiah 40:13-17, 45:18; Matthew 19:26, 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2

### **2. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: God the Father**

Jesus Christ did not have a biological father. God is His Father, and Jesus was miraculously born of a virgin mother by the power of the Holy Spirit. Yet still, all three exist as one God. The Fatherhood of God is eternal, therefore, Father and Son have always existed in a love relationship. God revealed Himself as Father in both the Old and the New Testaments. God adopts believers through Jesus Christ into a relationship with Him as their

Father. Through Christ, believers have the privilege of being heirs of God's glory. Father God actively prunes and disciplines believers so they may grow in character, wisdom, and knowledge of Him and bear the fruit of Christlikeness.

**Supportive Scripture:** John 15:1-4; Deuteronomy 32:6; Isaiah 9:6, 63:16; John 20:17; Romans 8:14-17; Galatians 4:6

### **3. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: Jesus Christ**

We believe Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God and He is God. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin, Mary. He lived a perfect, sinless life on earth and was obedient to God the Father. He voluntarily paid the price for the sins of all people by dying on the cross as our substitute. After His death, He was raised to life with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. Jesus then ascended into heaven and is now at the right hand of God where He is the only mediator between God and man. Jesus makes intercession for His own. He will one day personally and visibly come again to earth to fulfill prophecy and judge the world.

**Supportive Scriptures:** Matthew 1:22-23; Isaiah 9:6, 53; John 1:1-5; Romans 1:3-4; Acts 1:9-11; Colossians 2:9; 1 Timothy 6:14-15; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 4:14-15; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

### **4. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God and is thus fully and eternally God. The Holy Spirit is coequal with the Father and the Son as God. He is present in the world to make all people aware of their need for Jesus Christ. Once we enter into a personal relationship with God, through faith in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit comes to permanently reside (indwell) within each believer. The role of the Holy Spirit is helping us understand the Bible, convicting us of sin, giving us confidence in God, and enabling us to help others. Even though the Holy Spirit immediately came to live within (indwell) us when we placed our faith in Christ, followers of Jesus must also seek to actively walk in the Spirit on a daily basis. This requires us to submit our will to God's will and to be available to be used by God. He gives us spiritual



gifts to enable us to serve Him effectively. In essence, the Holy Spirit exists to lead us to Christ, help us accept Christ, and to live a Christ-like life.

**Supportive Scriptures:** John 14:16-17; John 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 3:17; Ephesians 1:13-14; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:18

### **5. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: The Bible**

We believe that the Bible is God's Word to us. The Bible was written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Bible is the mechanism by which the revelation of God to man has been recorded. It is our primary source for Christian beliefs. The Bible is comprised of 66 books of the Old and New Testament. We believe the Bible is completely trustworthy (truth without any mixture of error) and is inerrant in the original manuscripts. The Bible is and must be the final authority on all matters of faith and practice.

**Supportive Scriptures:** 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Psalm 12:6; Psalm 119:105,160; Proverbs 30:5; Romans 15:4; Romans 16:25-26; 1 Thessalonians 2:13

### **6. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: Mankind**

People were created innocent and in the image and likeness of God, for fellowship with God, but our first parents sinned bringing forth death (which means separation from God) to themselves and their posterity. As a consequence all people are now sinners both by nature and by their choice, are alienated from God, and apart from salvation through Jesus Christ are eternally separated from God. People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. Hell is defined as eternal separation from God. Eternal life is to be in union with God forever. Heaven and Hell are literal realities of eternal existence.

**Supportive Scriptures:** Genesis 1:26-27; 2:17; 3:6, 19; Romans 3:10-18, 5:12-21; Ephesians 2:1-3; Matthew 1:8, 2:44-46; John 2:25, 3:16, 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:15



## **7. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: Salvation**

We believe that salvation is the major theme of God’s revelation in the Bible. In the Bible, we discover that throughout history man has been made right with God on the basis of faith. Salvation is a gift of God and is received by individuals only through repentance and personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. People are justified by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, apart from human merit, works, or ceremonies. All true believers, “born again” by the Spirit through faith in Christ, are kept secure in Christ forever.

**Supportive Scriptures:** John 3:16, 10:27-30, 14:6; Romans 3:23, 8:33-39; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:8-10

## **8. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: Relationships**

We believe that God created us for relationship—relationship with Him and with one another. We emphasize the greatest commandments, which are to love God with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength and to love others as ourselves. It is by our primary relationship with God, through Jesus, with the Holy Spirit working in us, that love and all Godly fruit is possible. It is by our love for one another as Christians that people will know we are true disciples of Jesus Christ. We bring glory to God by living our lives in authentic, life changing relationship with Him and with one another.

**Supportive Scriptures:** Genesis 2:8; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 22:34-40; John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13:1; John 1:5-7

## **9. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: The Church**

The result of accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is that we become a part of His body, or “the Church” universal. The Church universal is not limited by denominations, but is limited only by whether or not we have placed our faith in Jesus Christ. All Christians are a part of the the Church in this sense of the word. However, the Bible clearly commands and teaches that believers are to gather together and form local bodies or churches. The local church is the living organism; the body of Christ. The church is the body and bride of Christ and also serves as the household of



faith. It is a living temple where God dwells in each of His people.

**Supportive Scriptures:** Matthew 16:15-19, 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-47, 5:11-14, 13:1-3, 14:23; Ephesians 1:22-23, 2:19-22; Colossians 1:18

#### **10. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: Priesthood of the Believer**

God intends for every believer to play a role in the ministry of His church.

Though certain roles of leadership may require special qualifications, ministry is not reserved for the “clergy.” Every member is a minister. God’s mission is accomplished best when every member of the church spends time and effort in ministry. In keeping with Paul’s words to the Ephesian church, *Restoration Church* endeavors to equip its members to do ministry, and not be fans sitting in the stands.

**Supportive Scriptures:** Ephesians 4:11-13; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4- 30; 1 Peter 4:10-11

#### **11. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: Church Leadership**

*Restoration Church* is a non-denominational Christian church. While recognizing the value of associating and cooperating with other groups of Christians, we believe the local church should be governed by elders who have been chosen from among the members. We have concluded that the Biblical model for church leadership is that Christ is the head of the church, and local elders are responsible to carry out His will in the local assembly of believers.

**Supportive Scriptures:** Acts 14:23; 1 Timothy 5:17; Ephesians 5:23-25; 1 Peter 5:1-4

#### **12. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: The End Times**

We believe there will be a literal return of Christ and a judgment day. We also believe there will be a literal rapture (a catching up of the saints). How and when this will happen has been a source of great debate. We believe the details are in God’s hands and this is not a salvation issue.

**Supportive Scriptures:** Matthew 12:36, 24:36; John 5:22, 16:8; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 2 Peter 3:7; Jude 6



### **13. Restoration Church Doctrinal Statement: Sanctity of Human Life**

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life.

**Scriptural References:** Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 139

