

Next Generation Churches Doctrinal Statement

Scripture

We believe that the Bible is God's divinely inspired Word, revealed through human writers, inerrant in its original form, and infallible in all matters of faith and conduct.

The Trinity

We believe that there is one true God, infinite, eternal and unchangeable in essence but eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; each is equal in nature, attributes, and perfections yet each executes distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence and redemption.

God the Father

We believe in God the Father, an infinite personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. He is sovereign in creation, providence, and redemption and orders all things according to His own purposes and grace. He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, in that He hears and answers prayer, and in that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is God's eternal Son, and has precisely the same nature, attributes and perfections as God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. We believe further that He is not only true God, but true man, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. We also believe in His sinless life, his substitutionary atonement, His bodily resurrection from the dead, His ascension into heaven and His priestly intercession on behalf of His people.

Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit who proceeds forth from God. His work is to convince the world of sin, righteousness and judgment; furthermore, He implements Christ's redeeming work through regeneration, sanctification, and preservation. He indwells and empowers believers for godly living and service.

Man

We believe God originally created man, male and female, in the image of God, free from sin. By personal choice, man fell into sin, the effect of which transmitted to all men making them spiritually dead. By divine pronouncement man is a sinner by nature and deed and stands under the judgment of God. We also believe that those who repent of sin and trust Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

Salvation

We believe in salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. We further believe this salvation is based upon the sovereign grace of God, was purchased by Christ on the cross, and is received by man through faith, apart from any human merit, works or ritual. We further believe salvation results in righteous living, good works, and proper social concern.

The Church

We believe that the universal church is a living spiritual body composed of all regenerate people of which Christ is the head. This body is called to express itself in local assemblies which practice the ordinances of believer's baptism by immersion, the Lord's Supper, and the fulfillment of Jesus' commandment to "make disciples of all nations." The fulfillment of its mission of evangelism, adoration and edification is the responsibility of all believers in the local church. We further believe that every local church and believer, under the authority and direction of Scripture may express their uniqueness in conscience, worship and practice, balancing it with an attitude of mutual submission of believers to each other in love.

Separation of Church and State

We believe that each church is autonomous and must be free from interference by ecclesiastical or political authority; that therefore Church and State must be kept separate as having different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from dictation or patronage of the other. We further believe that autonomous local churches choose by voluntary association to express their mutual interdependency and responsibility.

Last Things

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the saved and lost, the eternal communion with God (Heaven) or eternal separation from God (Lake of Fire), in accordance with each person's decision of accepting or rejecting God's grace as provided in Christ's atoning work. We further believe in Christ's personal visible premillennial return from heaven.

I am in complete agreement with the above Doctrinal Statement.

Pastor's Signature

Date

Chairman of Elders/Deacons

Date

Church Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____