



Statement of Faith

As stated in the Parental Commitment to First Baptist Academy, parents and/or guardians must understand that these doctrinal positions will be taught in our Bible classes and in our Chapel.

1. *THE SCRIPTURES*

We affirm that the Holy Bible is the inspired, inerrant Word of God and the basis for our beliefs. Through the providence of God, the Word of God has been protected and preserved, and is the only infallible and authoritative rule of faith and practice (II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:20-21).

2. *GOD*

We believe that there is only one true, living, sovereign, holy and eternally existent God. He exists in three co-equal persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each being a distinct person with a distinct function, but all of one essence and all possessing the same nature, perfection and attributes. The Triune God is the creator and sustainer of all things, the source of all truth, and is worthy of worship, confidence and obedience (Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Genesis 1:31).

3. *JESUS CHRIST*

We believe that Jesus Christ is God. In His incarnation, He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, lived an exemplary, sinless life, performed miracles, shed his blood on the cross to pay the debt for our sins, was buried, bodily resurrected, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return literally, visibly, and personally in glory and power (John 1:1-3, 14; Matthew 1:18-25, Philipians 2:5-9; Colossians 1:15; I Corinthians 15:1-8; Acts 1:11).

4. *HOLY SPIRIT*

We believe that the Holy Spirit is God, co-equal and co-existent with the Father and the Son. He convicts of sin and lostness and then brings about regeneration and sanctification. The Holy Spirit lives within every believer and desires to infill us and empower us to live a godly life. He gives special spiritual gifts to each believer to be used for His purposes and edify His Body (John 14:16-19; 16:7-15; I Corinthians 6:19-20; Romans 8:9, 11; Titus 3:5; I Corinthians 12).

5. *MAN*

We believe that in the beginning, God created man in His image, in order to have fellowship with Him, and man is not in any sense the product of evolution (Genesis 1:27, 31).

6. *SIN*

We believe that Adam and Eve, the first humans, sinned by disobedience to God. This act resulted in the fall of all mankind and creation. All people since then have likewise sinned and lost their ability to live in fellowship with God. Every person's sin incurs both physical and spiritual death unless there is forgiveness and salvation by the grace of God through Jesus Christ. All are in need of a new nature, which then allows us to have relationship and fellowship with God (Genesis 3:1-24; Isaiah 59:2; Romans 3:10-23; 5:12-21; 6:23, II Corinthians 5:17).

7. *SALVATION*

We believe that the salvation of lost and sinful people is a free gift of God's grace, apart from human works, based solely upon Christ's vicarious and atoning death and glorious resurrection. It is affected by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, and received only through repentance and faith in the person and finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross, and His resurrection from the dead. We must individually receive and confess Him as Lord of our lives in order to receive this free gift of salvation (Ephesians 2:8-10; Romans 10:9-13; Acts 20:21).

8. *THE CHURCH*

We believe that the Church is the Body of Christ and the Family of God. It is comprised of saved and baptized believers who regularly meet together and commit themselves to the purposes of our church: worship, evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, and service (Matthew 16:18; I Corinthians 12:12-24; Hebrews 10:25).

9. *EVANGELISM AND MISSIONS*

We believe that it is the responsibility and privilege of every Christian to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, and to seek to make growing disciples in Southwest Florida and beyond. Our commission is to give to, pray for, and be as involved as possible in home and foreign missions (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8).

10. *THE HOME*

We believe that God has given parents the responsibility to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:4, Prov.22:6). We believe that a consistent and whole education occurs when the home, church, and school work closely together and are in agreement in purpose, character, and biblical world-view (Ephesians 6:4; Proverbs 22:6).