## **CAMPUS BELIEFS AND VALUES**

- 1. We believe that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah, the Son of the Living God, God in human form. We believe that the virgin-born Son of God died for our sins, was buried, rose from the dead and is coming again. We believe He is both fully God and fully man. (Php. 2:5-7; Jn. 14:9; Jn. 8:58; Jn. 1:1, 14; Col. 2:9)
- 2. We believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, the written record of His supernatural revelation of Himself to man, absolute in its authority and complete in its revelation. (2 Ti. 3:16-17; 2 Pe. 1:20-21)
- 3. We believe that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God and are in need of salvation found only in Christ. (Ro. 3:23; 1 Co. 3:11)
- 4. We believe that Christ died on the cross in our place to atone for the sins of mankind, including our sins as well. We believe in Christ on the cross as ransom, as the expression of divine love (and therefore an example of the Way), and especially as God's victory over the enemy. (Isa. 53:3-6; 2 Co. 5:21; Ro. 5:8)
- 5. We believe in the bodily resurrection of Christ from the dead as prophesied. (1 Co. 15:1-4), and that he is coming again. (Jn. 14:1-6; 1 Th. 4:16-18; 2 Pe. 3:3-4, 10, 13)
- 6. As scripture says, we believe in heaven and hell, and in his just and merciful judgment to come. (Heb. 9:27; 2 Th. 1:8-9; Rev. 20:15; 2 Co. 5:6-10)
- 7. We believe that the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life are promised to those who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. (Jn. 3:16-17; Eph. 2:8-9); and that those putting their trust in Christ should turn away from their sins, confess their faith and be baptized into Him. (Ro. 10:9, Ac. 2:38-39; Ro. 6:3-4)
  - a. We reserve baptism for adults and children mature enough to repent of (turn away from) sin and confess faith in Christ.
  - b. We ask believers who have not been baptized by immersion to submit to that New Testament practice. (Ro. 10:9; Ac. 2:38-39; Ro. 6:3-4)
- 8. We believe that those who receive Christ also receive the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit: He marks them as the possession of God, manifests the fruit of righteousness in their character and endows them with spiritual gifts for ministry. (2 Co. 1:21-22; Gal. 5:22-23; 1 Co. 12:4-6)
- 9. We believe the church's worship of God together on the first day of the week is a joy-filled Biblical practice that honors the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit and blesses believers today as well.
  - a. Because the New Testament tells of gathering of the church to share the Lord's Supper each week (Ac. 20:7), Campus Church is blessed to share in communion with Christ and one another every week.
  - b. Our worship includes music that is contemporary and ancient, hymns of the past and present day. There are two worship times each Sunday, one fully acappella and another instrumental. Both honor God in ways we believe are biblical and meaningful to worshippers. In both worship times, everyone present is invited to join in to glorify God.
  - c. We believe that all believers should give a generous, intentional, regular, proportional gift of their income to God, through the local church, as a spiritual discipline. (Mal. 3:10; 1 Co. 16:2; 2 Co. 9:6-7)
- 10. We believe that God answers prayer, in ways seen and unseen, through natural and supernatural ways. We believe prayer is a spiritual discipline that should be taught, learned and practiced within the Body of Christ. (Ac. 1:14; Col. 4:2; 1 Jn. 5:14-15)
- 11. We believe the Church is a body of Christ-followers who should live in community and need the connection found in the fellowship of small group gatherings. (Ac. 2:44-47) Campus Church

- strongly encourages the need for those deep connections of fellowship by being a part of one of our Small Groups.
- 12. We believe the "will of God" is discerned through the direct teaching of the Scriptures as well as through prayer, wise counsel, communal discernment and a careful consideration of circumstances. (Pr. 16:3, 19:21; Jas. 1:5, 4:13-15; Ro. 12:1-2) Campus Church emphasizes the importance for each family member to be a part of our Bible Classes and learning time with others.
- 13. We long to be "Christians only", but make no claim to be the only Christians. (Jn. 10:14-16)
- 14. We believe the Church should seek unity among believers in all that is essential to the universal Christian faith and affirm liberty on all questions where the Lord has not spoken through His Word. (Eph. 4:2-6)
- 15. We believe the local church is an autonomous body which cooperates with many Christian agencies but is regulated or dominated by none. (Eph. 5:23b) Campus Church is shepherded and overseen by elders (Tit. 1:6-9), served by deacons and ministry leaders in specific areas of need (1 Ti. 3:8-10), and guided by ministers (1 & 2 Ti.) who teach, preach and direct Campus Church's worship and many programs within the elders' guidance.
- 16. We believe love of all people is the central quality of the Christian faith. (Jn. 13:35; 1 Pe. 4:8). Campus Church longs most to be known for our actions of love.
- 17. We believe the mission of the church is to reach the spiritually lost for Christ, to teach with the goal of "forming Christ in them" and then to call up believers to accomplish God's purposes in the world. (Mt. 28:18-20)
- 18. We daily choose to follow Jesus, and embrace a journey that is often counter to both our past lives and our present culture. Knowing we will stumble along the way, we rely on forgiveness through Christ, help from the Holy Spirit and the promise of newness every day from our Father.
  - a. Following Jesus means imitating him by taking up our own cross and humbling ourselves before others. (Php. 2:5-8)
  - b. Following Jesus means upholding purity for the unmarried (1 Co. 6:18-2) and the sanctity of faithful marriage, God's gift to a man and woman. (Ge. 2:20-24)
  - c. Following Jesus means embracing reconciliation and harmony among all of God's children, no matter our race, gender, nationality, economic status or any other reality that has caused division in this world. (Gal. 3:26-29)

Following Jesus means pursuing justice with love and compassion for anyone who is oppressed, abused or unfairly burdened in this world. (Mic. 6:8)