

Camp JYC Statement of Faith

The Word of God

We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God, inerrant in the original writings, complete as the revelation of God's will for salvation, and the supreme and final authority in all matters to which they speak. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21)

The Trinity

We believe in one God, Creator and Sustainer of all things, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; we believe that these are equal in every divine perfection and they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption. (Matthew 28:19)

God the Father

We believe in God the Father; an infinite, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of humanity, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. (Genesis 1,2; Psalm 139: 1-12; Malachi 3:6; James 1:17; Isaiah 5:16; Lamentations 3:22-23; 1 John 4:8)

Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is God's eternal Son, who 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 also 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, His priestly intercession on behalf of His people, and His personal, visible, return from heaven. (John 1:1-18; Luke 1:26-35; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Hebrews 9:22; Romans 5:8-9; Ephesians 2:8-10)

Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit, His personality and His work in regeneration, sanctification, and preservation. His ministry is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, to implement Christ's work of redeeming the lost, and to empower the believer for godly living and service. (John 1:12; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30)

Man

We believe God originally created persons, male and female, in the image of God and free from sin. We further believe all people are sinners by nature and choice and are spiritually dead. We also believe that those who repent of sin and trust Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit. (Romans 3:9-20; 5:12; John 3:1-21)

Human Life

We believe that all human life is sacred from conception to death. Created in the image of God, all humankind has inestimable intrinsic worth. Therefore, we affirm the sacredness and dignity of all people in all states of life regardless of physical, mental or emotional condition. We are, therefore, called by God, who is the Source of life, to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Genesis 1:26-28; Exodus 20; Psalm 139)

Marriage & Human Sexuality

We believe in the wonderful, immutable and purposeful biological creation by God of each person as either **male or female**. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Genesis 1:26-27). We further believe that God created marriage to be exclusively the union of one male and one female and that intimate sexual activity is to occur exclusively within that union. Established in the Creator's original design (Genesis 2:18-25) and confirmed in the words of Jesus (Matthew 19:4-6), marriage is both the foundational relationship in society and a reflection of Christ's relationship with his Church (Ephesians 5:21-33). We further believe that any and all sexual acts outside marriage – including but not

limited to: lust, adultery, fornication, incest, zoophilia, pornography, prostitution, masturbation, voyeurism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, sodomy, polygamy, polyamory, sologamy, or same-sex sexual acts – are prohibited by Scripture. (Genesis 1:26-28; 2:18-24; 19:5-10; Exodus 20:14; Leviticus 18:7-23; 20:10-21; Deuteronomy 5:18; Judges 19:22-24; Matthew 5:27-28; 15:19; 19:4-9; Mark 10:5-9; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 5; 6:9-13; Galatians 5:19; Ephesians 4:17-19; 5:25-27,31; Colossians 3:5; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Timothy 1:8-10; Jude 1:7; Revelation 19:7-9; 21:2)

Salvation

We believe in salvation by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We further believe that this salvation is based upon the sovereign grace of God, was purchased by Jesus Christ on the cross, and is received by faith, apart from any human merit, works, or ritual. We further believe that salvation is evidenced in righteous living, good works, and proper social concern. (Ephesians 2:8-10) We further believe that once a person is saved they cannot lose their salvation. (John 3:16; 5:24)

The Church

We believe that the Church is the spiritual body of which Christ is the head. We believe that the true Church is composed of all persons who have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit. We believe that this body expresses itself in local assemblies whose members have been immersed upon a credible confession of faith and have associated themselves for worship, for instruction, for evangelism, and for service. We believe the ordinances of the local church are believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper. We also believe in the interdependence of local churches and the mutual submission of believers to each other in love. (Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:11-13, 5:23-32; Acts 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13)

Christian Conduct

We believe that the supreme task of believers is to glorify God in their life and that their conduct should be blameless before the world. We further believe that they should be faithful stewards of their possessions and time; and that they should seek to realize for themselves the full stature of maturity in Christ. (Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 6:4-7; 1 John 2:15-17; Colossians 3:1-17)

The Last Things

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the saved and the lost, the eternal existence of all people either in heaven or hell, in divine judgment, rewards, and punishments. (Matthew 25:41, 46; John 5:28-29; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9; Revelation 20:4-6; 21:1-8)

Unconditional Love

We believe in the personal dignity of those who disagree with our positions. We acknowledge that there are those in our culture and communities that hold differing positions on matters of faith and practice and are, therefore, opposed to our beliefs as stated above. As illustrated in the life of Jesus and instructed in the Scriptures, we will at all times and in any way possible treat such individuals and groups with dignity and respect without compromising our beliefs. We will strive to love them unconditionally in word and deed, treating them as we wish ourselves to be treated and responding with grace when opposed. (Matthew 5:14-16; 7:12; Colossians 4:5-6)

Final Authority

This Statement of Faith does not, and could not, exhaustively describe our organization's beliefs. The Bible itself, as described above, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of communicating and applying our Statement of Faith, the Camp JYC oversight committee, in consultation with the Elders of the First Baptist Church of Franklinville, will be the final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application as guided by this Statement of Faith.