



Connected to God  
Knowing What We Believe and Why It is Important  
January 24, 2010

At Mountain View Church, we believe the Bible teaches that all of us need to be connected in three VITAL RELATIONSHIPS:

- 1. RELATIONSHIP WITH \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. RELATIONSHIP WITH \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. RELATIONSHIP WITH \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Christians must see that the faith is more than a religion or even a relationship with Jesus; the faith is a complete view of the world and humankind's place in it. Christianity is a world view that speaks to every area of life and its foundational doctrines define its content. If we don't know what we believe—even what Christianity is—how can we live it and defend it? Our ignorance is crippling us."*  
Chuck Colson

*"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, love."*  
John Wesley

- 1. WE BELIEVE IN THE \_\_\_\_\_.

We believe in the plenary (complete in every way) inspiration of the Bible—that all 66 books of the Old and New Testaments were given by divine inspiration, inerrantly revealing the will of God concerning us in all things necessary to our salvation.

(Luke 24:44-47; John 10:35; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Peter 1:10-12; 2 Peter 1:20-21)

We do not \_\_\_\_\_ the Bible. The Bible's purpose is to point us to God.

- 2. WE BELIEVE IN A \_\_\_\_\_ - THAT THERE IS ONE GOD REVEALED AS FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT.

A. WE BELIEVE IN GOD THE \_\_\_\_\_.

*"In the beginning, God."* Genesis 1:1

B. WE BELIEVE IN \_\_\_\_\_ - GOD THE SON.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Triune Godhead; that He was eternally one with the Father; that He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and was born of the Virgin Mary. We believe Jesus is God. We believe that Jesus Christ died for our sins, and that He truly arose from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is there interceding for us.

See: 1 Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53:3-6; 1 Peter 3:18

C. WE BELIEVE IN THE \_\_\_\_\_ - GOD THE SPIRIT.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Triune Godhead, that He is ever present and active in and with the Church of Christ, convincing the world of sin, regenerating those who repent and believe, sanctifying believers, and guiding into all truth as it is in Jesus.

D. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD \_\_\_\_\_.

*And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever - the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you.* John 14:16-17

See John 16:7; 2 Corinthians 13:14

A. \_\_\_\_\_ me.

When I pray, "melt me", I am inviting the Holy Spirit to melt my hard heart; I am inviting Him to take me apart, so He can put me together again.

*He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.* Matthew 3:11

*These (trials) have come so that your faith - of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire - may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.* 1 Peter 1:7

*Do not put out the Spirit's fire.* (Quench the Spirit) 1 Thessalonians 5:19

B. \_\_\_\_\_ me.

When I pray, "mold me," I am inviting the Holy Spirit to shape me into the person He wants me to be. I am asking Him to make me more like Jesus. This is God's purpose for us.

*For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers.* Romans 8:29

*And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being \_\_\_\_\_ with ever-increasing glory, which comes \_\_\_\_\_.* 2 Corinthians 3:18

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.* Galatians 5:22-23

C. \_\_\_\_\_ me.

When I pray, "Fill me, Holy Spirit," I am inviting the Holy Spirit to fill, empower, and lead me.

*Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.* Ephesians 5:18

ONE BAPTISM—MANY \_\_\_\_\_!

*I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge*

\_\_\_\_\_. Ephesians 3:16-19

D. \_\_\_\_\_ me.

1 Corinthians 12; John 20:21-22

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.* Acts 1:8

## **Mountain View's position on non-salvation issues:**

**1. Speaking in Tongues:** God is Sovereign and the Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts as He so chooses. We do not deny the gift of speaking in tongues especially as it pertains to one's personal prayer with God. We discourage its use in our public gatherings. We do not teach that to be filled with the Holy Spirit one must speak in tongues. Some churches do. This is a non-salvation issue. We emphasize that the evidence one is filled with the Holy Spirit is the Fruit of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.

**2. Water Baptism:** We believe when a person accepts Jesus, out of obedience to His command and to give public testimony to their profession, they are to be baptized. As a non-salvation issue, we have not made the mode of baptism an issue. Our preferred mode of baptism is immersion. However, baptism may be administered by sprinkling, pouring, or immersion, according to the choice of the applicant.

**3. Lord's Supper:** We believe the Memorial and Communion Supper instituted by our Lord and Savior Jesus is essentially a New Testament sacrament. It reminds us of Jesus' sacrificial death and the price paid for the forgiveness of our sins. It is to be entered into reverently and is for those who have put their faith in Christ.

**4. Divine Healing:** We believe in the Bible doctrine of divine healing and urge our people to seek to offer the prayer of faith for the healing of the sick. We also believe God heals through the means of medical science.

**5. Second Coming of Christ:** We believe the Lord Jesus Christ will come again; that we who are alive at His coming shall not precede them that are asleep in Christ Jesus; but that, if we are abiding in Him, we shall be caught up with the risen saints to meet the Lord in the air, so that we shall ever be with the Lord.

**6. Resurrection, Judgment and Destiny:** We believe in the resurrection of the dead. We believe in future judgment in which every person shall appear before God to be judged according to his or her deeds in this life. We believe there is a literal heaven and a literal hell.