



ESSENTIAL BELIEFS

Common Ground Online holds essential beliefs that drive us to what we call the irreducible core of the Christian faith – to Love God, Love Others and Make Disciples. (Mark 12:30-31 and Mathew 28:19). On the essential beliefs our Board and staff strive for unity with churches and people with whom we partner. In all instances we aim to follow Christ’s example in showing love and respect to all regardless of beliefs or practices.

SCRIPTURE

The Holy Bible is God’s inspired word to man. It is all trustworthy and eternally true. It is the blessed person who delights in and lives by the words it contains. (Psalm 1:1, 2 Timothy 3:16, Matthew 24:35, Psalm 19:7-11, Isaiah 40:8, Matthew 7:24, Psalm 119:11).

GOD

There is one and only one true God. He reveals himself to us as God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ) and God the Holy Spirit. He is three in one and yet not at odds with himself. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. (John 1:1, I Corinthians 3:16, Colossians 1:15, Hebrews 1:1-3, I Peter 1:2)

GOD THE FATHER

God as Father reigns providentially over the universe He created. He loves every human equally. (Ephesians 4:6, Isaiah 64:8, I John 4:8, I John 4:10)

GOD THE SON

God as Son is Jesus Christ. He is the only Son of God, was born of the virgin Mary, lived a perfect life, suffered under Pilate, and died a cruel death on a cross. His substitutionary death on a cross made the way for man to be forgiven of sin. (John 3:16, Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:18-25, Romans 5:6-8)

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

God as Spirit is fully divine. He convicts people of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He comforts, enlightens, and empowers the church and believers as they live lives of worship. (John 14:26, 2 Corinthians 13:14, John 16:13)

HUMANS

Humans are made in the image of God and are God's most precious creation. God endows all human life with inherent dignity, and it must be respected and protected from conception to natural death. God created humans as male and female to complement each other, and instituted marriage as a covenant relationship between one man and one woman. (Genesis 1:27, Psalm 139:13-16, Jeremiah 1:5, Mark 10:6-7, Romans 1:18-27, 1 Corinthians 7:2, Hebrews 13:4)

SIN

By their own choice, man and woman sinned against God and became separated from Him. But still, God's love for every human remains intact. (Romans 3:23)

SALVATION

Because of sin, all of mankind is destined for an eternity separated from Christ, but salvation is the act of rescuing people from this certain eternity to an eternal life with Christ. Salvation is given as a free gift and is accomplished by God's grace through one's personal faith in Jesus. Whomever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Romans 6:23, Romans 10:13, Ephesians 2:8-9)