

# **Essentials of Faith Boulevard Church**

## **The Scriptures**

We believe that the Bible, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is the inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God. Scripture is the supreme and final authority for faith, doctrine, worship, and life. Because God's Word is truth, we submit ourselves to its teaching in every area of life.

## **God**

We believe in one God, the sovereign Creator and Sustainer of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. To Him belong all glory, honor, and praise forever.

## **Jesus Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God and Living Word, became flesh through His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth. He is fully God and fully man, united in one Person forever. He lived without sin, died on the cross as the sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures, rose bodily from the dead on the third day, ascended into heaven, and now sits at the right hand of the Father as our High Priest, Advocate, and Mediator.

## **The Holy Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit glorifies Christ and applies His saving work to our hearts. He convicts the world of sin, draws people to the Savior, gives new life, indwells believers, empowers them for holy living and service, gives spiritual gifts for the building up of the Church, guides them into all truth, and seals them for the day of redemption.

## **Humanity, Sin, and Salvation**

We believe that all people are created in the image of God and therefore possess inherent dignity and worth. Because of sin, humanity is estranged from God and unable to save itself. Salvation is wholly dependent upon the free grace of God and is received through faith in Jesus Christ alone. God justifies sinners by crediting Christ's righteousness to those who trust in Him, and only those who are born again by the Holy Spirit and receive Jesus Christ become children of God and heirs of eternal life.

## **Creation, Manhood, Womanhood, and Marriage**

We believe that God created humanity in His image, male and female, as two distinct, complementary, and biological sexes. Men and women are equal in dignity, value, and worth before God, and both are called to glorify Him with their whole lives.

We believe that marriage is a covenant established by God and intended to be the lifelong union of one biological man and one biological woman. This covenant reflects God's design for human flourishing, faithfulness, family, and the relationship between Christ and His Church. We also believe that every person must be treated with truth, compassion, dignity, and love, and that all people are invited to find forgiveness, restoration, and new life in Jesus Christ.

## The Church

We believe that the true Church is composed of all people who, through saving faith in Jesus Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit, are united together in the body of Christ. The Church finds visible, though imperfect, expression in local congregations where the Word of God is faithfully preached, the sacraments or ordinances are administered with integrity, biblical discipline is practiced, and loving fellowship is maintained. The Church awaits the return of her Lord and exists to worship God, make disciples, serve one another, and bear witness to the gospel.

## The Return of Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ will come again to the earth personally, visibly, and bodily to judge the living and the dead, to consummate history, and to fulfill the eternal plan of God. Therefore, we live with hope, holiness, and readiness, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus."

## The Mission of the Church

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ commands all believers to proclaim the gospel throughout the world and to make disciples of all nations. Obedience to the Great Commission requires wholehearted commitment to Christ, who loved us and gave Himself for us. We believe that God has entrusted to His Church the ministry and message of reconciliation, calling His people to represent Christ as ambassadors who proclaim that, through Jesus Christ, sinners may be reconciled to God. Therefore, we are called to a life of worship, self-denying love, service, good works, and faithful witness for the glory of God.

## Biblical Foundations

The following passages provide biblical support for each statement of belief. Select any reference to open Bible Gateway in parallel NIV/NVI view.

### The Scriptures

[2 Timothy 3:16-17](#) | [2 Peter 1:20-21](#) | [Psalm 119:89, 105, 160](#) | [John 17:17](#) | [Matthew 5:17-18](#) | [Hebrews 4:12](#)

### God

[Deuteronomy 6:4](#) | [Genesis 1:1](#) | [Psalm 90:2](#) | [Isaiah 46:9-10](#) | [Matthew 28:19](#) | [2 Corinthians 13:14](#) | [Hebrews 1:3](#) | [Revelation 4:11](#)

### Jesus Christ

[John 1:1-3, 14](#) | [Luke 1:34-35](#) | [Colossians 2:9](#) | [Hebrews 4:14-15](#) | [1 Corinthians 15:3-4](#) | [Luke 24:36-43](#) | [Acts 1:9-11](#) | [Hebrews 7:24-27](#) | [1 John 2:1-2](#) | [1 Timothy 2:5-6](#)

### The Holy Spirit

[John 16:7-15](#) | [John 3:5-8](#) | [Titus 3:4-7](#) | [Romans 8:9-14](#) | [Acts 1:8](#) | [1 Corinthians 12:4-11](#) | [Galatians 5:16, 22-25](#) | [Ephesians 1:13-14](#) | [Ephesians 4:30](#)

## **Humanity, Sin, and Salvation**

[Genesis 1:26-27](#) | [Romans 3:10-12, 23](#) | [Romans 6:23](#) | [Ephesians 2:1-10](#) | [John 14:6](#) | [Acts 4:12](#) | [Romans 3:21-26](#) | [2 Corinthians 5:21](#) | [John 1:12-13](#) | [John 3:3-8, 16-18](#) | [Romans 8:15-17](#)

## **Creation, Manhood, Womanhood, and Marriage**

[Genesis 1:26-28](#) | [Genesis 2:18-25](#) | [Matthew 19:4-6](#) | [Malachi 2:14-16](#) | [Ephesians 5:21-33](#) | [1 Peter 3:7](#) | [Mark 12:28-31](#) | [Ephesians 4:15, 32](#) | [Colossians 3:12-14](#) | [1 Corinthians 6:9-11](#) | [2 Corinthians 5:17-20](#)

## **The Church**

[Matthew 16:18](#) | [1 Corinthians 12:12-27](#) | [Ephesians 2:19-22](#) | [1 Corinthians 6:11](#) | [Acts 2:42-47](#) | [2 Timothy 4:1-2](#) | [Matthew 28:19](#) | [1 Corinthians 11:23-26](#) | [Matthew 18:15-20](#) | [Hebrews 10:24-25](#) | [Ephesians 4:11-16](#) | [Acts 1:8](#)

## **The Return of Christ**

[Acts 1:9-11](#) | [Matthew 24:30-31](#) | [1 Thessalonians 4:13-18](#) | [2 Timothy 4:1](#) | [Titus 2:11-14](#) | [2 Peter 3:10-14](#) | [Revelation 22:12, 20](#)

## **The Mission of the Church**

[Matthew 28:18-20](#) | [Acts 1:8](#) | [2 Corinthians 5:14-21](#) | [Galatians 2:20](#) | [Luke 9:23-24](#) | [John 13:34-35](#) | [Ephesians 2:10](#) | [1 Peter 2:9-12](#) | [Colossians 3:17](#) | [1 Corinthians 10:31](#)