

# Statement of Faith

---

**First Coast Family Church** has been formed as a fellowship of believers under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Our supreme desire is to know Christ and be conformed to His image by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are a non-denominational, charismatic church, yet we are not opposed to denominations as such, only to the over-emphasis of the doctrinal differences that have led to the division of the Body of Christ.

## **The Holy Scripture**

We believe the Bible is the inspired, inerrant, infallible, irrevocable and complete Word of God and is therefore our supreme and final authority in all matters that it addresses.

*(2 Tim. 3:16,17)*

## **The Eternal Godhead**

We believe that God is Triune, existing eternally and simultaneously as three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. All three persons in the Godhead share equally and completely the one divine nature, and are therefore the same God, coequal in power, nature and glory.

*(1 John 5:7)*

## **Jesus Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity, is God the Son who has neither beginning nor ending. He was conceived in the flesh by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is fully God and fully man. Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and arose bodily on the third day. He ascended into heaven and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father as our only mediator, high priest, and advocate. He will return in glory to resurrect and judge all mankind. *(Matthew 1:23-25/John 1:1/14:3/Acts 4:12/1 Corinthians 15:3-4 & 20/Philippians 2:5-11/1 Timothy 2:5-6/Hebrews 4:14-16/1 Peter 2:22.)*

## **Holy Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit is God, the third person of the Trinity who is coequal with the Father and Son. The Holy Spirit's ministries include: Convicting all people of sin; calling, bringing regenerating, indwelling, and baptizing believers into the Body of Christ; setting them apart to a holy life; and teaching, keeping, and empowering them day by day for godly living and spiritual service. The Holy Spirit distributes spiritual gifts to each believer according to His will. God in His sovereignty still works in miraculous ways. *(John 3:5-8/Acts 1:8/5:3-4/16:7-14/1 Corinthians 2:9-12/3:16/12:3-13 & 28-31/13:8-11/Galatians 5:16-25/Ephesians 1:13-14/5:18/Hebrews 2:3-4)*

### **The Fall of Man**

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God to fellowship with Him and give Him glory. Adam and Eve through voluntary disobedience chose to rebel against God and as a result all of mankind became separated from God. The only remedy for this is redemption through faith in Jesus Christ.

*(Rom. 5:12)*

### **Basis of Salvation**

We believe that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us, signing the pardon of all who believe on Him and confess Jesus Christ as their Lord. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation and that there is absolutely no other way to be reconciled back to God the Father.

*(John 3:16; Rom. 5:8, Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 4:12)*

### **Salvation through Grace**

We believe that before salvation we have no righteousness of our own and must come to God through the righteousness of Christ.

*(Eph. 2:8)*

### **Repentance and Acceptance**

We believe that upon sincere repentance and a wholehearted acceptance of Christ as Lord, we are justified before God.

*(1 John 1:9)*

### **The New Birth**

We believe that the change which takes place in the heart and life at conversion is a literal one and is the result of being born of the Spirit of God.

*(2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 2:20; John 3:5-7)*

### **Daily Christian Life**

We believe that it is the will of God that we live a sanctified and holy life, growing constantly in the Faith.

*(Heb. 6:1)*

### **Water Baptism**

We believe that baptism by immersion in water is an outward sign of the inward work of salvation.

*(Matt. 28:19)*

### **The Lord's Supper**

We believe in the commemoration of the Lord's Supper by the symbolical use of the bread and the juice of the vine.

*(1 Cor. 11:28)*

### **Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

We believe that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is to endue the believer with

power, and that His empowering is after the same manner as in Bible days.  
(*Acts 1:8; 2:4*)

### **The Spirit-Filled Life**

We believe that it is the will of God that we walk in the Spirit continually.  
(*Rom. 8:1-2; 14-16*)

### **The Gifts and the Fruit of the Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit has gifts to bestow upon the Christian and that we should show spiritual fruit as evidence of a Spirit-filled life.  
(*1 Cor. 12:1-11; Gal. 5:22-23; Rom. 12:6-8; Eph. 4:11-13*)

### **Moderation and Balance**

We believe that all truth must be balanced with other scriptural truth in order to avoid any extreme or fanaticism and that moderation should show forth in our daily walk as a believer.  
(*Phil. 4:5*)

### **Divine Healing**

We believe that divine healing is the provision of Christ to heal the sick in response to the exercise of faith, the prayer of faith, the prayer of agreement, anointing with oil, the gifts of healing or the laying on of hands. We believe that this provision of Christ is for everyone today.  
(*1 Peter 2:24; Matt. 8:17; 18:18-19; James 5:14-16; 1 Cor. 2:9; Mark 16:15-18; Matt. 24:35; Mark 13:31; Luke 21:33*)

### **The Second Coming**

We believe that the Second Coming of Christ is literal and inevitable.  
(*1Thes. 4:16-17*)

### **Church Membership**

We believe it is our sacred duty to identify and actively participate with the local and visible church of Christ.  
(*Acts 16:5; Heb. 10:25*)

### **Civil Government**

We believe that the laws of the land should be upheld at all times except in matters opposed to the Word of God.  
(*Rom. 13:1-5*)

### **The Final Judgment**

We believe that all shall stand one day before God in final judgment, and there receive eternal reward or eternal judgment.  
(*2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:11-13*)

### **Heaven**

We believe that heaven is a literal place, eternally existent.  
(*John 14:2; Rev. 7:15-17*)

### **Hell**

We believe that hell is a literal place of eternal torment for all who reject the Lord Jesus Christ.  
(*Rev. 20:10,15*)

### **Evangelism**

We believe that evangelism is the Great Commission given to the Church and as the church every believer is spiritually obligated in fulfilling this commission.  
(*James 5:20; Mark 16:15; 2 Cor. 5:18-21*)

### **Tithes and Offerings**

We believe that the method ordained of God for the support and spread of His cause is by the giving of tithes and freewill offerings.  
(*Mal. 3:10; 2 Cor. 9:7; Heb. 7:8*)

### **Worship**

We believe that “acceptable” and “true” worship is prescribed by God Himself in His Word. This embodies individual and corporate expressions of praise and thanksgiving and reverence in holiness. **We believe** worship of God should be spiritual. Therefore, we remain flexible and yielded to the leading of the Holy Spirit to direct our worship. (*John 4:24; Psalm 150*)

### **Church Government**

We believe in church government to ensure order, and we believe in loyalty to those acting in rightful authority as they lead us in the Lord.  
(*1 Peter 5:1-5; Rom. 13*)

### **Unity, Understanding and Love**

We believe that in essentials there must be unity, in nonessentials -- understanding, and in all things - love. We believe the only true basis of Christian fellowship is Christ's Agape love, which is greater than any differences we possess and without which we have no right to claim ourselves Christians.