

“If I have the **faith**
that can move **mountains**
but have no **Love**
I amount to nothing at all.”

In essential beliefs we have unity.

Ephesians 4:4-6 "There is one Body and one Spirit...there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism and one God and Father of us all..."

At Abundant Life we hold some things very dear. Essentially we believe that God, in His grace and mercy, because of His love for us, redeemed sinful man to Himself through Jesus Christ. Jesus, by His death on the cross, paid the penalty for our sins and it is only through Him that we can receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life. We come to know and understand God's will for our lives through His Word, the Bible. It is the only supreme source of authority and no other writings are similarly inspired.

In non-essential beliefs we have liberty.

Romans 14:1, 4, 12, 22 "Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters...Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls... So then each of us will give an account of himself to God...So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God."

Hebrews 12:1 "...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles..."

In all our beliefs we have love.

I Corinthians 13:2 (Ph) "...If I hold in my mind not only all human knowledge but also the very secrets of God, and if I have the faith that can move mountains but have no love, I amount to nothing at all."

characteristic teachings

about God

God is the creator and ruler of the universe, He eternally exists in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The three are co-equal and are one God. He is constantly operating throughout history to fulfill His redemptive purposes.

Matthew 28; John 14:26; II Corinthians 13:14

about Jesus Christ

God the Son became a man in the person Jesus Christ and died for man's sins, rose physically from the dead and will come again to earth to consummate history and the eternal plan of God.

John 1:1,14; I Peter 2:24; Philippians 2:5-11; I Corinthians 15:1-8

about the Holy Spirit

God the Holy Spirit comes to live in the Christian and gives strength, guidance and gifts for ministry in the Body of Christ.

Acts 5:3,4; Acts 2:38; I Corinthians 6:19

about the Bible

The Bible is God's word to us. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth and authority for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is the truth without any mixture of error.

II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20-21; II Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105, 160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5

about salvation

Salvation is a gift of God because of His grace to us and cannot be earned and is not deserved. Each believer must personally appropriate that gift by faith in Jesus Christ alone. Response to that faith is seen in one's repentant life, confession of Jesus as Lord and baptism by immersion.

Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 10:9-10; Romans 6:3-4

about eternity

People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God because of sin, or eternally with God because of forgiveness and salvation through Jesus. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in fellowship with God is eternal life in Heaven. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.

John 3:16; Romans 6:23; Romans 8:17-18; Revelation 20:15; I Corinthians 2:7-9

about the second coming

The second coming is a subject of many differing opinions. It is enough that Jesus will return again to this earth to gather His church at a time when no one knows.

Matthew 24:36; I Thessalonians 4:13-5:2; John 14:3

about spiritual gifts

Spiritual gifts are available for all times, however, God in His sovereignty gives gifts on whom He will and must be practiced according to the principles found in the Bible and under the oversight of the Elders of each local body of believers.

Romans 12:3-8; I Corinthians 12-14; Ephesians 4:11-16; I Peter 4:10-11

about communion

We observe communion weekly as an opportunity to remember the death, burial, resurrection and return of our Lord. This opportunity, which is a culmination of our celebration and worship, is provided for all believers following the precedent of the early church who assembled every first day of the week and shared in this remembrance.

Acts 2:42; 20:7; I Corinthians 11:23-29

about stewardship and giving

The Bible teaches that all we have comes from God and belongs to God. He has given it to us and we are to be good stewards, or managers, of it. The church is supported by the members who are faithful stewards. A part of being a good steward is giving back to God the first part of our income for the work of the local church.

1 Chronicles 29:16; Psalm 24:1; 1 Corinthians 10:6; 1 Corinthians 16:2



about human beings

People are made in the image of God to be like Him in character. People are the supreme object of God's creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all of us are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called sin. Sin separates people from God and causes many problems in life.

Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6;
Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1-2