



## MINISTRY ARTICLES OF FAITH

**OUR MISSION** - To passionately serve Jesus Christ by ministering, without discrimination, His gospel, love, and fellowship to all His Children, with emphasis on meeting the spiritual needs of those who are lost, lonely, and alienated, as well as meeting the human needs of those who are homeless, hungry, and destitute.

**OUR VISION** - To be recognized and known within all of our mission areas as a Christ-centered Ministry that is willing and able to spread faith, hope, and love through the provision of community and ministry services that are intended to lead people to understand and accept God's Will for their salvation and lives.

### **PREAMBLE**

*"Guided by Grace Christian Ministries" believes that the written law of Moses (the Old Testament) is not intended to rule the believer's life under grace (the New Testament), but rather it is the abiding principles of the law (Old Testament) which are adapted to grace (New Testament) which are carried forward and restated under the teachings of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Key to this belief is that as God's children (His greatest and most beloved creation) and benefactors of Christ's saving grace, that we (as Branches) must abide in Christ (the Vine), under the care of the Husbandman (God) to bear the "fruit of the spirit (The Holy Spirit)." From this we are able to see and understand the trinity (three equal God Heads) at work in our lives. We believe it is only through the abiding in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ that we can fulfill His two Great Commandments and effectively minister, without partiality, to our brethren.*

## ARTICLES OF FAITH & VALUES

### **ARTICLE 1: What We Believe**

- There is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.
- There are three persons in the Godhead - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory.
- The Lord Jesus Christ has by His suffering and death made an atonement for the whole world so that whosoever believe in Him will be saved.
- Repentance toward God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation.
- We are justified and sanctified by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and that



grace is available to every person.

- The only way to “*Bear the Fruits of the Spirit*” is through the abiding in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- In the immortality of the soul, the resurrection of the body, in the general judgment at the end of the world, in the eternal happiness of the righteous, and in the endless punishment of the wicked.
- That the written law of Moses (the Old Testament) is not intended to be the rule of the believer’s life under grace (the New Testament), but rather it is the abiding principles of the law (Old Testament) which are adapted to grace (New Testament) which are carried forward and restated under the teachings of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.
- That as Benefactors or Jesus Christ our Savior, we are to extend our love to others through the giving of ourselves and resources.
- By means of our Lord’s infinite power and His love for us, all things are possible.

**ARTICLE 2: Organization’s Spiritual Foundation. “*Guided by Grace Christian Ministries*”** foundation is built on The Trinity and **embodies the ministry and teachings of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.** We embrace the testimony of both Testaments and in Jesus Christ as the Chief Priest and the Head of our Ministry that God is both One and Triune. The Biblical revelation testifies that there is only one God, and that He is eternally existent in Three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- God the Father. God the Father is the Creator and sustainer of all things, who created the universe in love to respond to Himself. He created man in His own image for fellowship, and calls man back to Himself through Christ after the rebellion and fall of man.
- The Son. Jesus Christ is eternally God. He was together with the Father and the Holy Spirit from the beginning, and through him all things were made. For man’s redemption He left heaven and became incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary.
- The Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God, the Lord and giver of life, who was active in the Old Testament, and given to the Ministry in fullness at Pentecost. He empowers the saints for service and witness, cleanses man from the old nature, and conforms us to the image of Christ. The baptism of the Holy Spirit, subsequent to conversion, releases the fullness of the Spirit and is evidenced by tongues, joy, praise, and other inward and outward manifestations and gifts.

**ARTICLE 3: The Scripture.** We affirm that the Bible containing the Old and New Testaments is alone the only infallible inspired Word of God, and that its authority is ultimate and final and eternal. It cannot be added to, subtracted from, or superseded in any regard. The Bible



is the source of all doctrine, instruction, correction and reproof. It contains all that is needed for guidance in godliness and practical Christian conduct.

**ARTICLE 4: *The Atonement.*** Christ's vicarious death on the cross paid the penalty for the sins of the whole world, but its benefits are only applicable to those who receive Jesus as their personal Savior.

**ARTICLE 5: *Salvation.*** The Word of God declares clearly that salvation is a free gift of God, based on the merits of the death of His Son, and is appropriated by faith. Salvation is affected by personal repentance, belief on the Lord Jesus (justification), and personal acceptance of Him into one's life as Lord and Savior (regeneration). The new life in Christ includes the privileges of adoption and inheritance in the Kingdom of God's beloved Son. Salvation is an act of free will in response to God's personal love for mankind. It is predestined only in the sense that God, through His omniscience, foreknew those who would choose Him. It is secure in the eternal unchanging commitment of God, who does not lie and is forever the same. Salvation should produce an active lifestyle of loving obedience and service to Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

**ARTICLE 6: *The Christian Life.*** We believe that the Scriptures portray the life of the saint in this world to be one of balance between what is imputed to us as followers and believers in Jesus Christ and what is imparted to us according to our faith and maturity. Hence God's provision for His children is total and the promises are final and are forever. The shortcomings of the individual and of the Ministry are because of the still progressing sanctification of the saints. The Christian life is filled with trials, tests, and warfare against a spiritual enemy. For those abiding in Christ until their death or His return, the promises of eternal blessing in the presence of God are assured. To remain faithful through all circumstances of life, it requires dependence upon the Holy Spirit and a willingness to die to personal desires and passions.

**ARTICLE 7: *Baptism and the Lord's Supper.*** The Word of God enjoins on the Ministry two perpetual ordinances of the Lord Jesus Christ. The first, baptism, is the outward sign of what God has already done in the individual's life, and is a testimony to all that the person belongs now to Jesus. Baptism allows believers to identify with Jesus and is performed in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Lord's Supper is a commemoration of the death of the Lord and is done in remembrance of Him until He comes again, and is a sign of our participation in Him. Both institutions are restricted to those who are believers.

**ARTICLE 8: *Eschatology.*** We affirm the bodily, personal, second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the Saints, the Millennium, and the final judgment. The final judgment will determine the eternal status of both the saints and the unbelievers, determined by their relationship to Jesus Christ. We affirm with the Bible the final state of the New Heavens and New Earth.



## ***MINISTRY VALUES***

- Providing a Christ-focused worship service. (Psalm 33:3; 40:3; Ecclesiastes 5:1; Isaiah 6:1-3; John 4:22-24)
- Providing biblical, life-changing, and excellent teaching and application of the Scriptures. (I Chronicles 12:32; II Timothy 3:14-17; Isaiah 42:20; Acts 2:42)
- Implementing a multi-faceted evangelism strategy for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 4:11,12; Matthew 28:18-20; Luke 8:5ff; Matthew 9:36-38)
- Maintaining a Ministry-wide prayer focus that helps each one to know God more intimately and give Him the worship due. (Jeremiah 9:23, 24; Matthew 6:5-15; Luke 11:1; James 5:16; Acts 2:42)
- Being a welcoming, caring and nourishing people who enjoy fellowship and worshiping together in the Body of Christ. (Acts 2:42; Romans 12:9-13)
- Ministering to those of our own Ministry and community who are hurting, recovering or in need of special assistance. (Luke 5:31, 32; James 1:27)
- Building up of believers in their faith in Jesus Christ, challenging them to grow spiritually. (II Timothy 2:2; Romans 14:19; 15:2; Ephesians 4:13-16).