

# **Lifeline Ministries of the Ozarks**

## **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

### THE WORD OF GOD

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme and final authority in all matters of faith and conduct. (Romans 15:4; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

### GOD

We believe that there is only one true and living God, who is sovereign, eternal, self-existent, immutable, omniscient, omnipresent, holy, just, and loving. (Isaiah 44:6)

We believe that He has revealed Himself in three distinct persons: God the Father; God the Son, Jesus Christ; God the Holy Spirit. (Titus 3:4-6)

#### a) God the Father

We believe in God the Father: an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of man, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. (Hebrews 1:5-9)

#### b) God the Son

We believe that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man. He is eternal and shares all of the attributes of Deity with the Father and the Holy Spirit, as God's only begotten Son. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into Heaven, perpetual intercession for His people and personal, visible return to earth. (John 3:16-17; Hebrews 1:8; 1 Timothy 3:16)

#### c) God the Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit is a person and shares all the attributes of Deity with the Father and the Son. He came forth from the Father and Son to testify of Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He regenerates, sanctifies, and empowers all who believe in Jesus Christ. He is an abiding Helper, Teacher, and Guide for all Christians. (John 14-16)

### SALVATION

We believe that all men are sinners by nature and by choice, and are therefore under eternal condemnation. Because lost man is spiritually dead, he is unable and unwilling to

contribute anything to his own salvation. We believe that those who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, repenting of their sins, are forgiven of their sins. They trust in Him because God has graciously given them both the desire and the ability. Therefore, we believe salvation is wholly of God, not of man. (John 1:12-13; Romans 5:6-12; Ephesians 2:1-10; Titus 2:11; 3:7; Acts 11:18)

## THE CHURCH

We believe that the Church is the Body of Christ, of which Christ is Head. It consists of all regenerated persons. We believe in local churches as segments of the universal Body of Believers, and that it is the spiritual obligation of every believer to be a part of a local church. We believe church members are to be accountable to one another and to the recognized leadership of the church. We believe that God has called the Church to evangelize the lost, and to act as a preserving and illuminating influence in the world. This calling can only be fulfilled under the guidance and in the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 12:5; Ephesians 1:22-23; Hebrews 10:24-25; Matthew 5:13-16; 28:18-20)

## CHRISTIAN LIVING

We believe that every Christian should live for the glory of God and the well-being of his fellow man; that he is called to live a holy and godly life. We believe that every Christian is called to be an active member of a local church. We believe that every Christian is called to be salt and light in the world and to be actively praying and working to lead others to faith in Christ. (1 Corinthians 10:31; 1 Peter 1:14-16; Romans 12:1; Matthew 22:37-40)

## ORDINANCES

We believe that the ordinances of the Lord's Supper and water baptism for Believers should be observed as they are recorded in scripture. (Col 2:12; Romans 6:4; Acts 8:36-39; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

## LAST THINGS

We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal joyfulness of the righteous and the endless suffering of the wicked. (Acts 1:11; Isaiah 9:6-7; 2 Peter 3:7; John 3:16-18)

## CHRISTIAN LIBERTY

We believe in the personal Lordship of Christ over individual Believers. Each must give account of himself to God. Therefore, in matters not clearly defined in scripture, convictions of one should not be imposed on others. In addition, doctrinal differences that are within the bounds of historic, orthodox Christianity should not be cause for division. (Romans 14; Mark 9:38-40)