

## **Statement of Faith**

Riverside Christian Academy's Statement of Faith directly flows from the beliefs of Riverside Calvary Chapel and the Calvary Chapel Movement. Please read through in completion and pursue with the application if you are in agreement with all of the statements.

**WE BELIEVE** that there is one living and true GOD, eternally existing in three persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, equal in power and glory; that this triune God created all, upholds all, and governs all. (Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; John 10:30; Hebrews 9:14; 1 John 5:7)

**WE BELIEVE** that the SCRIPTURES of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, fully inspired without error and the infallible rule of faith and practice. The Word of God is the foundation upon which this church operates and is the basis for which this church is governed. We believe that the Word of God supersedes any earthly law that is contrary to the Holy Scriptures. (Isaiah 28:13; Nehemiah 8:8; John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12; 1 Peter 1:23-25; 2 Peter 1:21)

**WE BELIEVE** in GOD THE FATHER, an infinite, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love; that He concerns Himself in the affairs of men; that He hears and answers prayer; and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. (Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalms 90:2; Psalms 102:27; John 4:24; 1 Timothy 1:17; Titus 1:3)

**WE BELIEVE** in JESUS CHRIST, God's only begotten Son, begotten not made, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings, His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people and personal, visible return to earth. (Isaiah 7:14; Micah 5:2; Matthew 1:23; Mark 16:19; Luke 1:34-35; John 1:1-2; John 8:58; John 11:25; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Hebrews 1:8; 1 John 1:2; Revelation 1:8)

**WE BELIEVE** in the HOLY SPIRIT, Who came forth from the Father and the Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify and empower for ministry all who believe in Jesus Christ; (Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 3:18; John 16:8-11; Romans 15:13,16; Hebrews 9:14)

**WE BELIEVE** the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Jesus Christ and that He is an abiding Helper, Teacher, and Guide. (John 14:16-17, 16:8-11)

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**WE BELIEVE** in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and in the exercise of all the Biblical gifts of the Spirit. (Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12 & 14)

**WE BELIEVE** that all PEOPLE are sinners by nature and choice and, therefore, are under condemnation; that God regenerates by the Holy Spirit, those who repent of their sins and confess Jesus Christ as Lord; that Jesus Christ baptizes the seeking believer with the Holy Spirit and power for service, often subsequent to regeneration. (Acts 8:15-17; Titus 3:5)

**WE BELIEVE** in the universal CHURCH, the living spiritual body, of which Jesus Christ is the Head and all regenerated persons are members. (1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Ephesians 4:15-16)

**WE BELIEVE** that the Lord Jesus Christ committed two ORDINANCES to the Church: 1) baptism, and 2) the Lord's Supper. We believe in baptism by immersion and communion open to all.(Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

**WE BELIEVE** that the institution of marriage is ordained of God, that it is a holy ordinance which serves as a model of the relationship between our Lord Jesus Christ and His bride, the church as described in the Bible. Furthermore, we believe that marriage is exclusively the legal union of one man with one woman. (Genesis 2:18-24, Matthew 19:5, 1 Corinthians 7:2)

**WE BELIEVE** also in the LAYING ON OF HANDS for the baptism of the Holy Spirit for ordination of pastors, elders, and deacons, and for receiving the perpetuity of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 6:6, 8:17; 1 Timothy 4:14)

**WE BELIEVE** in the personal, visible RETURN OF CHRIST to earth and the establishment of His Kingdom, in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment and eternal blessing of the righteous and endless suffering of the wicked. (Matthew 16:27; Acts 1:11; Revelation 19:11-16, 20: 11-15)

**WE BELIEVE** in a literal Heaven and a literal Hell and that all those who place their faith, hope and trust in Jesus Christ will spend eternity in Heaven with the Lord, while those who reject Jesus' free gift of salvation will spend eternity separated from the Lord in Hell. (Matthew 5:3, 25:31-34; Hebrews 12:23; 1 Peter 1:4; Psalm 9:17; Matthew 5:22, 18:9; Luke 12:5)

**WE BELIEVE** in the Pre-Tribulation Rapture of the Church where all believers will meet the Lord in the air and be taken out of this world prior to the Tribulation that will come upon the earth. (Matthew 24:29-31; Luke 21:36; Romans 1:18, 5:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:9; 2 Peter 2:7-9; Revelation 5:7-10, 7:13-14; Zephaniah 2:1-3)