

RISINGCHURCH

MISSION & VALUES

Mission

Our purpose is to lead everyone into a deeper and more vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ.

Values

We will feast on God's Word. We believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God and as such it inherently has power to give direction and transform lives. *(2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

We believe in a powerful God. We know and expect that God is able to do that which is beyond ourselves. We will dream big dreams and pray boldly for God to do great things in us and through us. *(Ephesians 3:20-21, Acts 1:8, Philippians 4:6-7, James 4:2)*

We will be His witnesses. We will serve and love others in Gwinnett County, in Georgia and the greater United States, as well as to the ends of the earth. God calls us to love and serve the least and the lost throughout our world. *(Acts 1:8, Matthew 25:35-40, Matthew 28:19-20)*

We will worship God passionately and joyfully. Praise the LORD! We will offer all that we have to praise Him for who He is and what He has done for us. *(Psalm 150)*

We will prepare the next generation. We will do whatever it takes to share the Gospel with children and youth in a relevant manner. *(Deuteronomy 6:6-9, Proverbs 22:6)*

We will grow together. We will be intentional about developing relationships with one another, encouraging and supporting one another to love God and to seek Him with all that we are. *(Acts 2:42-47, Hebrews 10:24-25)*

We will be innovative. We seek to engage the culture and time we live in for God's honor and glory, utilizing God-given creativity to compel the next generation to Him. *(1 Corinthians 9:19-23)*

We will do everything with excellence. Everything we do is done for the Glory of God, so we will do it to the absolute best of our abilities. *(Colossians 3:23-24)*

We believe everyone has a God-given role to play. We will support, encourage, and empower everyone to discover the purpose for which God has uniquely created and designed them for. *(1 Cor. 12:4-30, Ephesians 2:10)*

We will be people of integrity. Conducting ourselves with integrity will glorify God and provide nourishment for our ministry. *(Proverbs 10:9, Proverbs 15:3)*

We will be transparent. We will provide timely and consistent communications regarding Church finances, procedures and processes so that we may create a culture of accountability and trust. *(Hebrews 4:13)*

We will live within our means. Free from the burden of debt, we will be able to focus our resources and energy on the work God has called us to. *(Proverbs 22:7, Matthew 6:24)*

STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

ABOUT GOD

God is the creator and ruler of the universe. He has existed from eternity in three persons – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God. (*Genesis 1:1, 26, 27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14*)

ABOUT MAN

Man is created in the image of God, to be like him in character. Man is the supreme object of God's creation. Although man has great potential for good, he is tainted by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin." This attitude separates man from God. (*Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1, 2*)

ABOUT ETERNITY

Man was created to exist forever. He will either exist eternally separated from God because of sin or in union with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is hell. To be eternally in union with God is eternal life. Heaven and hell are places of eternal existence. (*John 3:16; John 2:25; John 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:15; 1 John 5:11-12; Matthew 25:31-46*)

ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with God the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered himself freely as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. After three days, he arose from the dead, demonstrating His power over sin and death. He ascended to heaven and will return again to earth to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. (*Matthew 1:22, 23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5, 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14, 15; 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4; Romans 1:3, 4; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14, 15; Titus 2:13*)

ABOUT SALVATION

Salvation is a gift from God to man. It is impossible for man to make up for his sin by self-improvement or good works – only by repentance of sins and trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can man be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith. (*Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8, 9; John 14:6, 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26; Romans 5:1*)

ABOUT ETERNAL SECURITY

Because God gives man eternal life through Jesus Christ, the believer's salvation is secure for all eternity. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. (*John 10:29; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25; 10:10, 14; 1 Peter 1:3-5*)

ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son as God. His role in the world is to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for holy living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. The Christian seeks to live under his control daily. (*2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13, 14:16, 17; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:1*)

ABOUT THE BIBLE

The Bible is God's word to all men. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the utmost source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error. (*2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105, 160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5*)

ABOUT BAPTISM

Baptism by immersion symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Baptism is a physical representation of a believer's new life. It is a public declaration of one's acceptance of Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. While baptism is not required for salvation, it is a biblical command and is a demonstration of one's love and obedience to Christ. (*Colossians 2:12; Acts 2:41; Ephesians 2:8-9; Matthew 28:19-20*)

ABOUT COMMUNION

Communion, or the Lord's Supper, is a precept given to all believers by Jesus Christ to remember and celebrate his sacrifice on the cross for us. The elements of bread and wine or juice are symbols of Christ's broken body and shed blood. Communion is not a means of salvation; rather, it is a testament of a believer's faith in the atoning work of the cross. (*Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:19, 20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29*)

ABOUT MARRIAGE

Marriage is God-ordained. "The creator made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.'" Marriage is to be an exclusive relationship, a lifelong faithful union between a man and a woman. This relationship between a husband and wife should parallel the relationship between Christ and the Church. (*Matthew 19:4-5; Ephesians 5:23-30*)