

# Valleydale Church Statement of Beliefs



## **I.**

We believe in the one true and living God, creator of all things, almighty, and sovereign in the universe.

## **II.**

We believe that He is a three-person God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## **III.**

We believe that He has revealed Himself generally through His Creation and Moral Law and specifically through His own voice, the incarnation of His Son, and His written word, the Bible.

## **IV.**

We believe that the Bible is the inspired, inerrant, infallible, and authoritative word of God.

## **V.**

We believe that all things God created were good but that mankind freely sinned against God and in that sin fell from God's perfection.

## **VI.**

We believe that sinful man stands opposed to God and in that sin faces the eternal, just wrath of the Almighty God.

## **VII.**

We believe that God is a gracious God and that He has extended His grace to sinful man through His Son Jesus Christ.

## **VIII.**

We believe that Christ the Son, though being fully God, became fully man, being born of a virgin.

## **IX.**

We believe that Jesus Christ lived on earth and, though He was tempted in every way, did not sin and lived in perfect accordance to the will of the Father.

## **X.**

We believe that Jesus was betrayed and was crucified on a Roman cross.

## **XI.**

We believe that in this crucifixion, Christ the Son took on the full weight of the Father's wrath against the sinfulness of man and became the atoning sacrifice for all who believe in Him.

## **XII.**

We believe that Christ died and was buried, but after three days He was raised from the dead to live and to reign over heaven and earth.

## **XIII.**

We believe that after His resurrection He met with His disciples, commissioned His church, and ascended into heaven, from where He reigns and is building His Kingdom.

## **XIV.**

We believe that the church is the presence of the Kingdom of Christ on earth.

**XV.**

We believe that followers of Jesus are indwelt by the Holy Spirit of God who is the third person of the Trinity and who strengthens believers to grow in holiness and in obedience to the commands of Christ.

**XVI.**

We believe that God's gift of grace and forgiveness of sin is available to all who have faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord.

**XVII.**

We believe that this offer of grace is exclusive only to those who confess and believe in the Lordship and saving work of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we believe in the Great Commission and that we are charged by Christ to make disciples.

**XVIII.**

We believe that followers of Christ join together in localized bodies or local churches in order to live out the life of a disciple.

**XIX.**

We believe in baptism by immersion in water as a proclamation of faith and an experience of fellowship with Christ in his death and resurrection.

**XX.**

We believe in the observation of the Lord's Supper as a proclamation of Christ's work and Kingdom until He returns.

**XXI.**

We believe that Christ will return to establish fully His authority over all things.

**XXII.**

We believe that Christ will judge all of humanity and condemn all evil and that He will call those who have believed in Him to life in His everlasting Kingdom.

# Valleydale Church Covenant

1. Having been led by the Spirit of God to accept Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord and having entered into the fellowship of His church, we, the members of Valleydale Church in Birmingham, Alabama prayerfully and joyfully make this covenant with one another and with Him.
2. We covenant together to Make Jesus Known and Make Disciples, affirming our *Statement of Beliefs*.
3. We commit to worship God corporately, and to pursue God devotionally both in private and with our families. We will not forsake this worship, but commit to pursue God regularly, sacrificially, generously, and with humility.
4. We further commit to urge one another to be faithful in participating in the various components of worship; declarations of praise, sincere prayer, cheerful giving, and right living before the sovereign God of the universe.
5. We commit to connect with one another in sincere community, therefore we commit to join together in groups focused on biblical truth, intentional community, and disciple making.
6. We commit to pray for one another, care for one another, and meet the needs of one another, always pursuing reconciliation and Church unity.
7. We commit to study God's word, teach one another God's truth, and urge one another to live out this truth.
8. We commit to connect with unbelievers for the sake of the advancement of the gospel.
9. We commit to use the gifts that God has given us to advance His Kingdom. Therefore, we commit to find a place to serve, whereby we can take part in building the Kingdom of Christ cheerfully, readily, and sacrificially in the Church, in our community, and even to the ends of the earth.
10. We submit to biblical authority, and to the authority of the congregation, and to the instruction, care, and discipline of the elders.
11. Finally, should we ever leave this church we commit to resign from this body and as soon as possible join another gospel centered, biblically driven church.

*We make all of these commitments by the grace of Lord Jesus Christ, with his help, and for his glory.*