

## Abundant Life Family Church - What We Believe

- **The Holy Bible** - The Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible and inerrant (*II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20-21; Proverbs 30:5; Romans 16:25-26*).
- **The Trinity** - There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and co-eternal (*I John 5:7; Genesis 1:26; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 9:6; Hebrews 3:7-11*).
- **Jesus Christ** - Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. On earth, Jesus was 100% God and 100% man. He is the only man ever to have lived a sinless life. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, died on the cross for mankind and thus, atoned for our sins through the shedding of His blood. He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return in power and glory. (*John 1:1,14, 20:28; I Timothy 3:16; Isaiah 9:6; Philippians 2:5-6; I Timothy 2:5*).
- **Man, His Fall and Redemption** - Man is a created being, made in the likeness and image of God, but through Adam's transgression and fall, sin came into the world. The Bible says, "...all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God," and "...There is none righteous, no, not one." Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was manifested to undo the works of the devil and gave His life and shed His blood to redeem and restore man back to God. (*Romans 3:10, 23, Romans 5:14, I John 3:8*).
- **Salvation** - We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ: His death, burial, and resurrection. Salvation is a gift from God, not a result of our good works or of any human efforts (*Ephesians 2:8-9; Galatians 2:16, 3:8; Titus 3:5; Romans 10:9-10; Acts 16:31; Hebrews 9:22*).
- **Repentance** - Repentance is the commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ, which allows us to receive His redemption and to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit. Thus, through repentance we receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation (*Acts 2:21, 3:19; I John 1:9*).
- **Sanctification** - Sanctification is the ongoing process of yielding to God's Word and His Spirit to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life (*I Thessalonians 4:3, 5:23; II Corinthians 3:18, 6:14-18, II Thessalonians 2:1-3, Romans 8:29, 12:1-2, Hebrews 2:11*).
- **Jesus Christ Indwells All Believers** - Christians are people who have invited the Lord Jesus Christ to come and live inside them by His Holy Spirit. They relinquish the authority of their lives over to him thus making Jesus the Lord of their life as well as Savior. They put their trust in what Jesus accomplished for them when He died, was buried, and rose again from the dead (*John 1:12; John 14:17, 23; John 15:4; Romans 8:11; Revelation 3:20*).
- **Baptism in the Holy Spirit** - Given at Pentecost, it is the promise of the Father, sent by Jesus after His Ascension, to empower the Church to preach the Gospel throughout the

whole earth (*Joel 2:28-29; Matthew 3:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 1:5,2:1-4, 17, 38-39, 8:14-17, 10:38, 44-47, 11:15-17, 19:1-6*).

- **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit** - The Holy Spirit is manifested through a variety of spiritual gifts to build and sanctify the church, demonstrate the validity of the resurrection, and confirm the power of the Gospel. The Bible's lists of these gifts are not necessarily exhaustive, and the gifts may occur in various combinations. All believers are commanded to earnestly desire the manifestation of the gifts in their lives. These gifts always operate in harmony with the Scriptures and should never be used in violation of Biblical parameters. (*Hebrews 2:4; Romans 1:11, 12 :4-8; Ephesians 4:16; I Timothy 4:14; II Timothy 1:6-7; I Corinthians 12:1-31, 14:1-40; I Peter 4:10*).
- **The Church** - The church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission. Every person who is born of the Spirit is an integral part of the church as a member of the body of believers. There is a spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Ephesians 1:22, 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23; John 17:11, 20-23*).
- **Eternity** - Heaven and hell are places of eternal existence. We will either exist eternally in hell, separated from God by sin, or eternally in heaven with God through forgiveness and salvation. Heaven is the eternal dwelling place for all believers in the Gospel of Jesus Christ (*Matthew 5:3, 12, 20, II Corinthians 5:1; I Peter 1:4, Matthew 25:41; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 20:12-15, 21:8*).
- **Second Coming** - Jesus Christ will physically and visibly return to earth for the second time to establish His Kingdom. This will occur at a date undisclosed by the Scriptures (*Matthew 24:30, 26:63-64; Acts 1:9-11; I Thessalonians 4:15-17; II Thessalonians 1:7-8; Revelation 1:7*).

## The Sacraments

- **Water Baptism** - Following faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the new convert is commanded by the Word of God to be baptized in water in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (*Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12, 36-38; 10:47-48*).
- **The Lord's Supper** - A unique time of communion in the presence of God when the elements of bread and grape juice (the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ) are taken in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross (*Matthew 26:26-29; I Corinthians 10:16, 11:23-25*).
- **Marriage** - We believe marriage is defined in the Bible as a covenant, a sacred bond between one man and one woman, instituted by and publicly entered into before God (*Matthew 19:4-6*).
- **Healing of the Sick** - Healing of the sick is illustrated in the life and ministry of Jesus, and included in the commission of Jesus to His disciples. It is given as a sign, which is to follow believers. It is also a part of Jesus' work on the Cross and one of the gifts of the Spirit. (*Psalm 103:2-3; Isaiah 53:5; Matthew 8:16-17; Mark 16:17-18; Acts 8:6-7; James 5:14-16; I Corinthians 12:9, 28; Romans 11:29*).

## **The Abundant Life**

The Bible teaches that Jesus came to provide life “more abundantly.” This abundant life includes spiritual, mental, physical, and financial well-being. It is included in the atoning work of Christ, and it is available for every child of God to appropriate by faith in and obedience to the written Word of God.

- **Spiritual** - (*John 3:3-11; II Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 10:9-10*)
- **Mental and Emotional** - (*II Timothy 1:7, 2:11; Philippians 4:7-8; Romans 12:2; Isaiah 26:3*).
- **Physical** - (*Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:17; I Peter 2:24*).
- **Financial** - (*Joshua 1:8; Malachi 3:10-11; Luke 6:38; II Corinthians 9:6-10; Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Psalm 34:10, 84:11; Philippians 4:19*).