

# Rally Point Church – What We Believe

## The Bible

We believe in and submit to the authority of scripture for the Bible is the verbally inspired word of God, free from error in its original text, forever and eternal, unchanging, true, alive, and accessible to all (John 1:1; 2 Peter 1:20-21; John 17:17; Psalm 119:160; Matthew 5:17-18; Proverbs 30:5-6; Hebrews 4:12). The Bible reveals the heart of God, his plan to redeem humanity, and how to live as a follower of Jesus (John 3:16-17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Matthew 4:4; Isaiah 55:8-11; Psalm 119:105).

## God

We believe in one eternal God, creator of all things (Revelation 1:8; Genesis 1). He is all-knowing, all-powerful, ever-present, and unchanging (Romans 11:33; Job 42:1-2; Psalm 139:7-8; Malachi 3:6). He is perfect, holy, merciful and loving, worthy of all honor and glory (Matthew 5:48; Isaiah 6:3; Ephesians 2:4-5; Revelation 4:11). God exists as three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each with different attributes and roles (Matthew 28:19; John 14).

- **Father:** He is the Father of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and the one who sends the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 1:3; Luke 11:13). Sovereign, wrathful, and just, the Father is the ultimate judge of all humanity, both the righteous and the unrighteous (Luke 10:21-22; Isaiah 33:22; Romans 1:16-18). As the one who forms and protects us, He desires a restored relationship with us (Isaiah 64:8; Psalm 91:14; 1 Timothy 2:3-6). To make this possible, our heavenly Father sent his Son to die and bear the sins of the world, demonstrating his sacrificial and compassionate nature (1 John 4:14-17; John 3:16). He is Father to the fatherless and our generous provider, whose ways are good but often incomprehensible (Psalm 68:5; Matthew 6:25-33; Isaiah 55:9).
- **Jesus:** He is the eternal Son of God, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, who took human form, becoming fully man while remaining fully God (John 1:1-17; Luke 1:26-38; Luke 2:1-7). Jesus, God in flesh, is the fulfillment of prophecy as the long awaited Messiah and Savior of the world (Isaiah 53:5-12). During his earthly ministry, Jesus preached to the lost, healed the broken, loved the overlooked, and revealed the true character of God (Matthew 5:3-10; Luke 5:17-26; John 4 1-26; Matthew 11:25-27). Jesus, who lived a sinless life, was crucified, buried, and then rose from the dead. His death on the cross and physical resurrection defeated death and atoned for the sins of the world (1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 1 John 2:2). Our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father, where he, as our high priest, serves as the mediator and advocate for those who profess faith in Him (Mark 16:19; Hebrews 4:14-16; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 1 John 2:1). Jesus will return and establish His kingdom forever (Luke 17:20-35; Revelation 22:12-13).
- **Holy Spirit:** He is fully and eternally God, a gift sent from the Father to continue Jesus' ministry on earth (John 14:16-26; Hebrews 9:14; John 16:7). The Holy Spirit regenerates and renews hearts, baptizes the redeemed into the body of Christ, dwells within the believer, and is the assurance of our salvation (Titus 3:4-7; Ezekiel 36:26; 1 Corinthians 12:13; John 14:17; 2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13-14; Romans 8:9). In His work, the Spirit equips us for ministry, guides us to all truth, prays for us on our behalf, comforts us in our sorrow, counsels us in our struggles, and helps us realize and repent of our sin (1 Samuel 16:13; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; John 16:13; Romans 8:26-27; John 16:8). Those who belong to Christ Jesus will manifest the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-24).

## **Man and God's Redemptive Plan**

We believe that man (male and female) was created by God in His image and likeness (Genesis 1:27). As His chief creation, man was designed to eternally worship and glorify God (Psalm 8:3-9; Revelation 4:11). Our relationship with Him was severed when Adam and Eve chose to disobey God, bringing sin into the world for all future generations (Genesis 3; Romans 5:12-14). We sin when we choose our own desires over God's perfect will (James 1:14-15). The Bible teaches that all have sinned against God, that the payment for sin is death and eternal separation from God, and that no amount of good deeds or righteous living can satisfy God's judgment (Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; Isaiah 59:2; Ephesians 2:8-10).

Despite our sin, God still loved us and sent His Son as our path to redemption (Romans 5:8; John 3:16). Jesus lived a perfect life, died a death he didn't deserve, endured the full wrath of God, and was raised from the dead, all to pay the penalty for the sins of the world (2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 5:9-11; Romans 6:4-5; 1 John 2:2). Through His substitutionary death and victorious resurrection, anyone who confesses Jesus as Lord and repents of their sins will be forgiven (Romans 10:9-10; Acts 2:38-39). As believers, we are called to live righteous and holy lives that give glory to God as we patiently await His second coming (Romans 6:1-2; 1 Timothy 6:11-12; 2 Peter 3:11-13; Hebrews 9:27-28).

## **The Mission of the Church**

Jesus is the head of the Church and the Church is the body of Christ (Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 4:15-16). The global Church is made up of diverse believers with various gifts, abilities, and roles, all united by their common faith in Jesus (Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 1:10; Galatians 3:26-28). In the local context, believers voluntarily band together as the church to glorify God and further the ministry of Jesus (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; Matthew 18:20; Acts 2:42-47).

As the church, we meet regularly to worship God, to hear His truth proclaimed, to equip the saints for ministry, to observe the sacraments of baptism and communion, and to pray and fellowship together (Hebrews 10:24-25; Ephesians 4:11-15; 1 Corinthians 14:26; Romans 6:1-4; Luke 22:17-20; Acts 2:42-47). We believe all followers of Jesus are called to make disciples and to be sent out as ministers of the Gospel (Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 10:14-17; Luke 10:1-3).