

## **New Life Hispanic Ministries Statement of Faith**

**This doctrinal statement reflects those doctrines which are consistent with the teachings of the Bible and are expressed in the conservative evangelical tradition. We specifically affirm the following doctrinal truths:**

### **1. The Scriptures**

We believe that the entire Bible (66 books) is the inspired Word of God and that men of God "were moved by the Holy Spirit" to write the very words of Scripture. The Bible is therefore without error (inerrant) in its original manuscripts. The Bible is the sole final authority for faith and life, providing encouragement, guidance, comfort and instruction for training and righteousness. (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:20-21).

### **2. The Godhead (Trinity)**

We believe in one true God eternally existing in three distinct persons (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) each of whom is fully and equally God; and possesses all the divine nature and attributes, and is totally worthy of our worship and service. (Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19; Gen 1:1).

#### **The Father**

We believe that God the Father is the eternal, unchanging, all-powerful, all-knowing, all-wise, all-loving, completely just and perfectly holy, creator, sovereign Ruler and Sustainer of the universe. He is the Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the Father of all true believers in Jesus Christ. ( Eph. 4:6; John 5:19-21, 17:1-5; Is. 40:21-28, 43:10-13).

#### **The Son**

We believe that Jesus Christ is the only begotten eternal Son of God who became flesh to reveal God to man, to fulfill prophecy, and to become the Savior of the lost world. In becoming man, Jesus did not cease in any way to be God so that He is fully God and fully man, inseparably united in one person forever. Jesus was miraculously conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, died on the cross as the substitutionary all-sufficient atoning sacrifice for all of the sins of all men of all time. He was buried; bodily rose from the dead, physically ascended into heaven in His glorified resurrected body. He is seated at the right hand of the father performing His ministry of intercession. (John 1:1, 14, 18, 3:16; Luke 1:30-35; Phil. 2:5-8; Col. 2:9; Mark 10:45; Acts 2:22-24; John 1:29; Rom. 3:25-26; Heb. 9:28, 10:11-14; 1Pet. 2:24, 3:18).

#### **The Holy Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the agent for the conviction of sin and for regeneration. Simultaneously with salvation, the Holy Spirit imparts new life, baptizes the believer into the body of Christ (His Church), permanently indwells the believer, and securely seals the believer unto the day of redemption. The Holy Spirit fills (directs and controls) those believers who are yielded to Him and enables believers to live a life free from sin's domination. We also believe that the Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts to believers for the purpose of edifying the church in accordance with the teaching of the scripture. No particular spiritual gift is required for holy living or is expected of all believers. ( John 16:7-15; 1 Cor. 6:19, 12:13; Eph. 1:13-14; Gal. 5:16-17, 22-23; Rom. 8:5-13; 1 Pet. 4:10-11; Rom. 12:3-8).

### **3. Man's Nature**

We believe that man was created in the image of God by a direct act of God. Man was created to glorify God, worship, serve and have fellowship with Him. Man fell through sin by disobeying God, thus incurring both physical and spiritual death, which alienates him from God. Man's nature was thus corrupted and he is utterly lost; totally incapable of coming back into right relationship with God by his own merit or effort. (Gen. 1:26, 2:17, 3:17-24; Is. 59:1-2; Rom. 3:9-19, 23, 5:6-8; Luke 18:26-27; Eph. 2:1-3).

#### **4. Salvation**

We believe that salvation is the position of one having been delivered from the power of darkness and transferred into the Kingdom of Christ. The shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross provides the sole basis for forgiveness of sins and salvation, which is the free gift of God's grace. Salvation is effected by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit and cannot be secured by man's works or personal merit. Salvation is only appropriated by a person placing his faith in the finished work of Christ. (Col. 1:13; Eph. 1:7; John 1:12-13, 3:1-7, 14-16; 2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 1:16, 10:9-10; Eph. 2:8-10; John 10:27-29, 14:6; 1 Pet. 1:3-5).

#### **5. The Christian Life**

We believe that every Christian should live for Christ and not for himself and should by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit, allow Christ to manifest His life through him to God's glory. By ever increasing obedience to the Word of God, each believer should mature and progressively become more like Jesus. In the power of the Holy Spirit, each believer should live a holy life; not fulfill the lusts of the flesh; exercise his spiritual gifts to build up the body of Christ; witness for Christ; be personally involved in making disciples to fulfill the great commission; perform good works and bear fruit to the glory of God. (Gal. 2:20; 1 Pet. 1:15-16, 2:11; 2 Cor. 5:14-15; Rom. 6:11-13; Eph. 2:10, 4:22-24; Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:18-20; Col. 1:10; John 15:1-8).

#### **6. The Church**

We believe that the church is the body of Christ of which Jesus is the Head and whose members are those who have truly received Christ by faith. The local church is a tangible expression of the body of Christ in a particular location. Since all members of the body of Christ are united in Christ by the same Spirit, they should live in love, harmony, unity, being intent on the same purpose, make Christ known to lost men, make disciples and glorify God on earth. (1 Cor. 12:12-27; Eph. 1:20-23; Phil 2:2; Matt. 16:18; 1 Pet. 2:9-10; Matt. 28:18-20).

#### **7. Future Things**

We believe that at death every believer consciously and immediately enters into the presence and fellowship of the Lord to wait for the physical resurrection and glorification of his body at Christ's return. The believer will thus enjoy eternal life with God, fellowshiping, serving and worshiping Him forever. (2 Cor. 5:6; 1 Cor. 15:12-58; 1 Thess. 4:13-18). We believe that at death every unbeliever consciously and immediately enters into separation from the Lord to wait for the physical resurrection for judgment and punishment. (Luke 16:19-31; John 3:18; Rev. 20:5, 11-15; 2 Thess. 1:5-10).

We believe in the rapture of the church and in the personal visible return of our Lord Jesus Christ to the earth to establish His kingdom. We believe in the bodily resurrection of both the saved and lost. The saved shall appear in heaven at the judgment seat of Christ to receive rewards and to dwell with Him for all eternity. The lost shall be judged at the Great White Throne and be cast into the lake of fire to suffer eternal conscious punishment. (Titus 2:11-13; John 14:1-3; 1 Cor. 15:51-58; Psalm 24; Is. 9:6; Acts 1:10-11; Rev. 20; Matt. 25:31-33; 2 Pet. 3:1-13; 1 Cor. 3:11-15).