

FamiliesAlive®

What We Believe¹ and Code of Ethics

What We Believe:

All Scripture is self-attesting and being Truth, requires our unreserved submission in all areas of life. The infallible Word of God, the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is a complete and unified witness to God's redemptive acts culminating in the incarnation of the Living Word, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible, uniquely and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, is the supreme and final authority on all matters on which it speaks. On this sure foundation we affirm these additional Essentials of our faith:

- We believe in one God, the sovereign Creator and Sustainer of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. To Him be all honor, glory and praise forever!
- Jesus Christ, the living Word, became flesh through His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth. He who is true God became true man united in one Person forever. He died on the cross a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. On the third day He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where, at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He now is our High Priest and Mediator.
- The Holy Spirit has come to glorify Christ and to apply the saving work of Christ to our hearts. He convicts us of sin and draws us to the Savior. Indwelling our hearts, He gives new life to us, empowers and imparts gifts to us for service. He instructs and guides us into all truth, and seals us for the day of redemption.
- Being estranged from God and condemned by our sinfulness, our salvation is wholly dependent upon the work of God's free grace. God credits His righteousness to those who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation, thereby justifies them in His sight. Only such as are born of the Holy Spirit and receive Jesus Christ become children of God and heirs of eternal life.
- The true Church is composed of all persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit are united together in the body of Christ. The Church finds her visible, yet imperfect, expression in local congregations where the Word of God is preached in its purity and the sacraments are administered in their integrity; where scriptural discipline is practiced, and where loving fellowship is maintained. For her perfecting, she awaits the return of her Lord.
- Jesus Christ will come again to the earth-personally, visibly, and bodily-to judge the living and the dead, and to consummate history and the eternal plan of God. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." (Rev. 22:20)
- The Lord Jesus Christ commands all believers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to make disciples of all nations. Obedience to the Great Commission requires total commitment to "Him who loved us and gave Himself for us." He calls us to a life of self-denying love and service. "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (Eph. 2:10)

In addition to these Essentials, we believe that God is the creator of the family (Gen 2:21-25, 4:1-2, 25-26), that parents are given the responsibility to teach their children about God (Deut 6), and that God delights to work in the children and grandchildren of His followers down through the generations. (Ex 20:4)

Code of Ethics:

We understand that God calls us not only to believe what the Bible teaches, but also to behave as the Bible teaches. Genuine faith yields to the supremacy of the Lord Jesus Christ and seeks to please Him by living a life of obedient love and holiness.

The Holy Scriptures are our only rule for faith and practice and are the guide God has given to show how He would have us live as His children. By His grace, we will seek to live "good lives" (1 Peter 2:12) in keeping with the ethical standards established in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17) and summarized by Jesus in Matthew 22:37-38. As Christian leaders, we are called to set an example in "speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12). For this we strive, supplied by the grace of God, that we might "live lives worthy of the calling we have received." (Ephesians 4:1)

As a volunteer for FamiliesAlive®, I concur with the What We Believe and Code of Ethics document and agree to abide by these policies.

Signed _____

Date _____

¹ The Essentials of our Faith is a document of The Evangelical Presbyterian Church, copyright 1981-2010, Evangelical Presbyterian Church, all rights reserved, used by permission.