

after meeting the current obligations of the Assembly, of a voluntary weekly offering; Luke 22. 19-20; Acts 2. 42; Acts 20. 7; 1 Corinthians 11. 23-26; 1 Corinthians 16. 1-2;

**Reception into the fellowship only of baptized believers who are living a morally upright life and who believe the doctrines stated.**

At the discretion of the Elders, acting on behalf of the Assembly, the admittance to the membership and fellowship of the Assembly of Believers of only such persons as are saved, have been baptized by immersion, as lead godly lives, and who profess the doctrines above stated and such admittance to be expressed by the reception at the Lord's Supper of such believers; Acts 2. 41-42; 1 Corinthians 10. 14-17; 1 Corinthians 5. 6-8; [See Note below]

**We have no single pastor or minister presiding within the gatherings of the Assembly**

The holding of meetings for worship under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, with the opportunity for the exercise in the Assembly of all true gifts for edification, subject to the Lordship of Christ thus with no pastor or minister presiding; Romans 12. 6-8; 1 Peter 4. 10-11;

**The Gatherings of the Assembly to be in accord with those recorded in the Word of God.**

The holding of meetings for prayer and edification of Believers and for the proclamation of the Gospel setting forth the propitiating work of Jesus Christ as the only ground of reconciliation with God; Philipians 2. 15-16; Romans 3. 24-28; Acts 8. 12; Acts 12. 12; Acts 20. 7;

**The Headship of Christ which means that the males will have their heads uncovered and the females will have their heads covered.**

That the visible acknowledgement of the Headship of Christ in the gatherings of the Assembly be by the head of each male being uncovered and head of each female being covered

**Discipline to be a matter for the Elders to operate within the teaching of the Word of God and in conjunction with the whole Assembly.**

That all differences between Christians within the Assembly be prayerfully considered in the light of the teaching of the Word of God. Cases of Discipline, whether moral or doctrinal, shall be considered in the first instance by the Elders/Overseers, who shall examine the whole case in the light of Scripture; Matthew 18. 15-19; Hebrews 13. 17

**The males can participate audibly within Assembly gatherings but the females cannot.**

The sphere and definition of service of each is, and will be, as clearly defined in Scripture; 1 Corinthians 11. 5-17; 1 Corinthians 14. 34; 1 Timothy 2. 12

[Note: Those who have been divorced and have remarried another partner, or any living in a same-sex relationship, will not be considered eligible for fellowship, as any marriage beyond their first, though legal in state law, is regarded by God as adulterous. Matthew 5. 31-32; 19. 9; Mark 10. 2-9; Romans 7. 1-7; 1 Corinthians 7. 10-11; Romans 1. 26-27; 1 Corinthians 6. 9-11; 2 Peter 2. 6; Jude 7]

# Statement of Doctrines & Practices

The Gospel Hall,  
Portland Street,  
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## **SCHEDULE – DOCTRINES**

Having regard to the exhortation contained in the Word of God that Christians should 'earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints', Jude 3, references to certain Scriptures are appended. We believe:

### **1. The Bible to be the Word of God**

The Divine Plenary Inspiration Authority and sufficiency of the Holy Scripture; 2 Timothy 3. 15-17; 1 Peter 1. 10-12; 2 Peter 1. 20-21; Psalm 19. 7-11

### **2. The Trinity and unity within the Trinity of Divine persons.**

The Unity of the Godhead with the distinction of Persons in that Unity namely The Father and The Son and The Holy Spirit to each of Whom equal honour is due; Deuteronomy 6. 4; Genesis 1. 2, 26; John 1. 1-2; 5. 17, 22-23; 14. 25-26; Philippians 2. 6; Hebrews 1. 1-3, 8

### **3. (a) The Virgin Birth and humanity of Christ.**

That the Son of God truly became Man being begotten of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary; Galatians 4. 4; Matthew 1. 20-25; Luke 1. 35; John 1. 14

#### **(b) The death of Christ for sin.**

That His death was a sacrifice to God and a propitiation for sins; Romans 3. 25; 2 Corinthians 5. 21; Hebrews 9. 24-28; 10. 12-14

**(c) That He was raised from the dead;** Matthew 28. 5-7; 1 Corinthians 15. 20

#### **(d) The Ascension of Christ**

That He ascended to the right hand of God and is now the All-sufficient High Priest of His people; Mark 16. 19-20; Luke 24. 50-51; Acts 1. 9; Ephesians 4. 8-10

#### **(e) The Return of Christ for His Church at the rapture and later to the earth.**

That He will come again to receive His people unto Himself and subsequently to set up His Kingdom; John 14. 3; 1 Thessalonians 4. 13-18; Luke 1. 32-33; Isaiah 9. 6-7; Daniel 2. 44-45

### **4. The Fall of man**

That in consequence of the fall (sin) of Adam man became lost and is at enmity against God: that he is also without strength to do the will of God; Psalm 53. 2-3; Luke 19. 10; Romans 3. 19; 5. 6, 12-19; 8. 5-7

### **5. Salvation is a work of the Spirit of God**

The need of the Holy Spirit's work in regeneration and sanctification; John 3. 5-8; 16. 8-11; Titus 3. 4-7; 2 Thessalonians 2. 13-14

### **6. (a) Justification is by faith alone**

That the justification of the sinner before God is by faith alone in Christ Who died for

our sins and rose again for our justification; Romans 3. 21-26; 4. 4-5; 5. 1; Galatians 2. 16

#### **(b) That every justified one is also born of God;**

John 1. 12-13; James 1. 18; 1 Peter 1. 23

#### **(c) New birth will be evident in a changed life**

That such new birth results in and is made evident by holiness of life and good works; Ephesians 2. 10; 4. 24; Titus 3. 4-8

### **7. (a) Death is not the end. The body may die but the spirit and soul are eternal.**

That at death the spirit of man does not cease to exist or become unconscious; Ecclesiastes 12. 7; Luke 16. 19-31; 23. 43; 2 Corinthians 5. 6-8;

#### **(b) The resurrection of the dead, either to eternal life in Christ, or death and eternal punishment.**

That the dead will be raised either to life or to condemnation and that the blessedness of the righteous and the punishment of the unrighteous will be alike eternal. 1 Corinthians 15. 51-57; Philippians 3. 20-21; Romans 14. 9-10; 2 Corinthians 5. 10; Daniel 12. 2; Acts 17. 31; Revelation 20. 11-15;

### **8. (a) That the Assembly be recognized as the House of God**

That the Assembly be recognized as the House of God in which the Lordship of Christ, the Sovereignty of the Spirit is believed and accepted, and that worship as directed by the Spirit centres completely round the Son. Philippians 3. 3;

#### **That government within the Assembly is by godly overseers**

That government within the Assembly is by godly overseers appointed by the Holy Spirit and having the character and qualifications as defined in Scripture; Acts 20. 28; 1 Timothy 3. 1-7; Titus 1. 5-9; 1 Peter 5. 2; 1 Thessalonians 5. 14; Hebrews 13. 17; 1 Timothy 5. 17;

#### **That each Assembly is autonomous**

That each Assembly is autonomous responsible solely and directly to the Lord Himself. Revelation 2. 1-29;

## **SCHEDULE – PRACTICES**

### **The baptizing of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ by immersion**

Baptism is by immersion on personal confession of faith: Matthew 28. 18-20; Acts 2. 41; Acts 8. 36-38; Acts 10. 47-48

### **The weekly remembrance of the Lord's death**

The commemoration of the Lord's death in the Breaking of Bread on the first day of the week in so far as circumstances allow. And preferably the setting aside, after