

## Renew Church: Revised Belief Statement (May 2020)

**God:** We believe that there is only one God, existing in three persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). He is eternal, unchanging, all-powerful, all-knowing and all-present.

**Creation:** We believe the book of Genesis is the historic account of the creation of the universe and the beginning of all life on earth, specifically the human race.

**Man:** We believe that Mankind was created in the image and likeness of God, but because of disobedience, fell from innocence and purity, inherited a sin nature, and became separated from God and His purpose for our lives. Man is totally unable to fix his sin-stained condition apart from Jesus Christ.

**The Cross:** We believe that God the Son (Jesus Christ) became man, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, and was crucified on a cross, becoming the sin sacrifice for the whole world, and rose again physically after three days. By doing so He broke the curse of sin and death, providing not just forgiveness but freedom and wholeness, complete restoration for all who believe in Him.

**Salvation:** We believe that salvation (forgiveness of sins, eternal life and relationship with God) is available by faith alone in the complete work of Jesus Christ on the cross. It is a free gift and cannot be 'earned'. This decision to follow Jesus will result in a change of heart and a change of behaviour; forsaking sinful behaviour and instead making life-choices which are pleasing to God.

**The Bible:** We believe that The Bible (Old and New Testaments) is God-inspired, accurate, authoritative and applicable to our everyday lives.

**Church:** We believe that the Church, is a global movement made up of all born-again Believers. Her purpose is to continue the restorative ministry of Jesus Christ and advance His Kingdom until He returns. Every Christian is called to be an active participant in a community of Believers (local churches), meeting regularly for fellowship, worship, prayer, teaching and communion in large and small groups.

**Water Baptism:** We believe that Water baptism (full immersion in water in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit), is a public demonstration of our decision to follow Jesus, symbolic of dying to our old selfish, sinful ways, and beginning a new life surrendered to God.

**Holy Spirit Baptism:** We believe that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a separate experience from Salvation and Water Baptism, and is available to every follower of Jesus for the purpose of supernatural empowerment and victorious living. Evidences of being filled by the Holy Spirit include the ability to speak in an unlearned language, courageous Christian living and operation in spiritual gifts.

**Great Commission:** Every Believer is uniquely gifted and called by God to a life full of mission, purpose and influence, showing the love of God, communicating the 'Good News' in word and deed, and encouraging others in their Journey with Jesus.

**Healing and Wholeness:** We believe that God is good and wants to bring healing and wholeness to every area of our lives (spiritual, mental, emotional and physical). Jesus' finished work on the cross made this possible.

**Angels and Demons:** We believe that Satan is a literal being, originally an arch-angel who rebelled against God and was cast out of heaven. His forces of fallen-angels and demonic entities work relentlessly to further enslave mankind in sin and pain. Angels are God's messengers, assisting in His work and protecting the Church.

**Heaven and Hell:** We believe that every person's eternal destination – eternal life (heaven) or eternal separation (hell) will be determined by our response to Jesus Christ's offer of salvation and forgiveness.

**Life:** We believe that all human life (from conception to the grave) is sacred and must be respected and protected, regardless of age or ailment.

**Gender:** We believe that God created mankind male and female, therefore gender is biological and chosen by God, not man.

**Marriage:** We believe that marriage is the sacred, life-long covenant between one man and one woman before God. All sexual behaviour outside of this covenant is outside of the will of God.

**Israel:** We believe that Israel and the Jewish people are precious to God and have an important part to play in God's future plans for mankind.

**The Second Coming of Christ:** We believe that one day Jesus Christ will return in physical form to earth for the Church, who will rule and reign alongside Him. Satan will be completely defeated and God's Kingdom will last forever.