

Hillcrest Bible Church
Wednesday “Local Groups” – Special Series
Summer 2020, via Zoom

An Overview of Biblical Doctrine

Study Outline

This summer, we invite you to participate in an extension of our weekly Wednesday Local Group studies. Most of the groups have not been meeting due to COVID-19; but with reduced activities and opportunities for fellowship this summer, it seemed appropriate to schedule a special series so that all who wish to study, pray and fellowship together may do so.

It is important that we, as a body of believers, are reminded frequently of those doctrines that are core to our Christian faith. So this summer, we will study selected Scriptures that are the foundation of Hillcrest’s Statement of Faith.

Through this study, we pray that our certainty of these truths, our joy in believing them, and our unity in affirming them will all richly increase.

Weekly Meeting Plan

Preparation: Read and meditate on the listed Scriptures and be prepared to discuss the questions below.

Scripture recitation: 7:00 – 7:05 PM
2 Timothy 3:14-17

Study: 7:05 – 7:40

Read the listed Scriptures together, and discuss these questions:

1. Why is the truth being studied a non-negotiable component of our faith? In other words, what makes it critical to systematic Christian doctrine, and what falls apart if it is abandoned?
2. What does the post-modern western world in which we live believe about this topic?
3. If we better understood and walked in this truth, how would it change our lives?

Prayer: 7:40 – 8:00

Series Schedule

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| June 17 th | The Bible |
| June 24 th | God |
| July 1 st | The Lord Jesus Christ |
| July 8 th | The Holy Spirit |
| July 15 th | Angels |
| July 22 nd | Satan and Demons |
| July 29 th | Man and Sin |
| August 5 th | Salvation, Part 1 |
| August 12 th | Salvation, Part 2 |
| August 19 th | The Church |
| August 26 th | The Last Things |
| September 2 nd | Break |
| September 9 th | Resume regular local group meetings in person, Lord willing! |

Zoom Info

Due to lingering restrictions from the COVID-19 epidemic, we will be gathering this summer via Zoom. Please access the study using the following link and information:

- By computer or mobile:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4653969144?pwd=MVEwZnA4cDRnY0VVR0w5bnZhQUoydz09>
- By phone: 1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- Meeting ID: 465 396 9144
- Password: 706969

The Statement of Faith of Hillcrest Bible Church

Approved: February 24, 1982

The following articles embody the statement of faith of Hillcrest Bible Church.

This statement of faith is derived from and subordinate to the only source of Christian truth, the infallible Word of God. The articles, being an interpretation, are not infallible, nor are they equal to Scripture. It is recognized that these articles are not comprehensive of all biblical truth. Should any portion be demonstrated by Scripture to be in need of clarification, then the appropriate change or changes will be made to express the truth more accurately.

This statement of faith sets forth the basic beliefs which represent the theological position of this church. This position is distinguished by certain prominent characteristics. One such characteristic is a strong emphasis on God. The God of the Bible sovereignly rules His creation and personally accomplishes all things according to His appointed plan. A second characteristic is a strong emphasis on the Word. God has revealed Himself through the written Word, the Holy Bible, and in the Bible through the living Word, the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus, if God is to be known, the Word of God must be the focal point of all ministry. A third characteristic is a strong emphasis on the sovereign purpose of God. In that purpose, there is a diversity as it relates to Israel and the Church. At the same time, there is a unity in the outworking of God's redemptive plan throughout all of human history.

The basic purpose of this statement of faith is to affirm and proclaim the biblical position of this church. In doing so it will serve as the basis for fellowship, ministry, education and discipline. Most importantly, the statement of faith reflects the desire of this church to glorify God in all things.

June 17th: Article I: The Bible

We believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, inerrant in the original manuscripts, infallible, and the sole authority on matters of faith and holiness.

2 Peter 1:20-21

2 Timothy 3:16-17

John 17:17

June 24th: Article II: God

We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and that they are one, each with the same nature and attributes.

We believe that God is spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth; that He sovereignly rules all His creation; and that all things exist by Him and for His glory.

We believe the Father for His own glory has foreordained whatsoever comes to pass, including the salvation of His people whom He chose from before the foundation of the world.

1 John 5:7

Exodus 34:6-7

Romans 9:15-16

July 1st: Article III: The Lord Jesus Christ

We believe the Son was sent into the world by the Father to become a man, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, born without sin of the virgin Mary, to suffer and die to secure the redemption of the people of God; that He was raised again the third day; that He is now exalted at the right hand of the Father, making intercession for us; and that He is the coming Eternal King.

John 1:1, 14

1 Peter 3:18, 22

Philippians 2 6-11

July 8th: Article IV: The Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit was sent by the Father and Son at Pentecost to indwell all believers and that He causes them to be born again, seals them, sanctifies them, and gives them spiritual gifts for the ministry of the Church.

Acts 2:4, 33

Titus 3:5-6

Ephesians 1:13-14

July 15th: Article V: Angels

We believe that angels are created spirit-beings who are empowered to worship God and execute His providence.

Revelation 4:8-9

Hebrews 1:14

Revelation 5:11-14

July 22nd: Article VI: Satan and Demons

We believe that Satan, a fallen angel, is the responsible agent of sin; he opposes the work of Christ in the world, but is doomed to face certain, eternal judgment along with demons, fallen angels, who are also working to thwart God's purposes in the world.

Isaiah 14:12-20

Ephesians 6:11-13

2 Corinthians 4:4

July 29th: Article VII: Man and Sin

We believe that man was created in the image of God, but fell in Adam, and because of Adam's sin and personal acts of sin is under condemnation, incapable of knowing or doing the will of God.

Genesis 1:26-27

Romans 5:12-13

Ephesians 2:1-3

Romans 3:23

August 5th: Article VII: Salvation (Part 1)

We believe that salvation, totally a work of God, is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ who died on the cross as a substitute for sinners to satisfy the righteousness of God.

We believe that faith is a gift of God, imparted by God through His Word, having the person and work of Jesus Christ as its object.

We believe that salvation consists in: Justification, whereby sinners are granted the forgiveness of sins and declared to have the righteousness of Christ; Sanctification, whereby the saved are separated unto God to be led daily in the paths of righteousness; and Glorification, whereby the saved will be transformed into the very image of Jesus Christ at the return of the Lord.

Ephesians 2:8-9

2 Corinthians 5:21

Romans 8:29-30

August 12th: Article VII: Salvation (Part 2)

We believe that those who are saved are kept by the power of God through faith, and that they will manifest a transformation of life through obedience to the Word of God and demonstration of the fruit of the Spirit.

We believe that true believers are to be of one mind, the mind of Christ, in preferring the eternal over the temporal, denying self to follow Christ, resisting the world, the flesh and the devil, being willing to suffer rather than to sin, desiring to give rather than to receive, and living as unto Christ.

John 10:27-29

John 13:13-17

Romans 12:1-2

August 19th: Article IX: The Church

We believe that the Church is the Body of Christ, of which every true believer in this present age is a member, and that we become members of the Body of Christ at the time of salvation through the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

We believe in the local church which consists of those in a given locality who profess faith in Christ, that it exists for the worship of God, for the teaching of the Word, for the fellowship of the saints, and for a witness to the world.

We believe that the local church is to observe the ordinances of believer's baptism by immersion, and the Lord's Supper.

We believe that Christ is the Head of His Church, exercising His authority according to scripture through the leadership of spiritual men in the church serving as elders and deacons.

1 Corinthians 12:13, 27-28

1 Corinthians 14:24-25

2 Timothy 4:1-2

August 26th: Article X: The Last Things

We believe in the imminent, bodily return of Jesus Christ for the Church, and in the millennial reign of Christ upon the earth.

We believe in the resurrection of all who have died; and in the judgment of the wicked to eternal damnation, and the righteous to eternal glory.

“Even so, come, Lord Jesus.”

Luke 12:40-48

Matthew 25:31-46

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18