

Church on the Hill Core Values and Beliefs

1. The Word of God

We believe that the Bible is the divinely inspired, infallible authoritative word of God. It is the absolute standard and rule for our lives and all that we do as a local church. We also believe that every believer should endeavor to have a daily personal time in the Scriptures. (2 Timothy 3:16).

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
2 Timothy 3:16

2. The Worship of God

We believe that worship is far more than just a time of singing in a service. Worship is a lifestyle in which we choose to honor God in everything that we say and do. We value individual creativity and desire a place of expression and release for every unique gift. (Psalm 66:4; John 4:23-24)

All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name.
Psalm 66:4

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.
John 4:23-24

3. The People of God

One of the core beliefs at COTH is that *relationship releases all ministry*. A right relationship with God and with our fellow believers is vital to building a community of faith and accomplishing the purposes that God has for our lives. Relationships are essential as they provide the accountability, affirmation, and assessment necessary for a church body to operate effectively. This value, however, is a by-product of the importance we place on the **People of God**. We desire for COTH to be a multi-cultural, multi-generational body of believers that value and embrace all people with the love, acceptance and forgiveness that Jesus Christ has shown us. We believe that every person is precious in the sight of God, our Father, and that each individual has something to contribute to our local body and the Kingdom of God. (Hebrews 10:25)

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.
Hebrews 10:25

4. The Holy Spirit

We believe that the baptism with the Holy Spirit is to endue the believer with power and that we are filled in the same manner they were in the Bible (Acts 2:4). We believe that it is the will of God that each believer walks in the Spirit daily

and that a life that is Spirit filled will produce spiritual fruit. Finally, we believe that the Holy Spirit does bestow upon each spirit filled believer specific gifts. (1 Corinthians 12:1-11)

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:4

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

5. The Lord's Supper

We believe in the commemoration of the Lord's Supper by the symbolic use of the bread and the juice of the vine (1 Cor. 11:24-25). This is a sacrament of the church and one to be enjoyed by everyone who has received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. We practice open communion at COTH, which means we freely share communion with everyone who has believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, not just the members of our local body.

And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. 1 Corinthians 11:24-25

6. Salvation and Security

We believe that there is only one name under heaven by which men can be saved; that name is Jesus Christ. Salvation comes only by grace through faith and not by works or merits of our own. We also believe that the Christian is secure in his or her salvation as long as they are living by faith and endeavoring to follow and obey Christ in all they think, say and do. In our belief, salvation is not easily lost, however, it can be forsaken and abandoned when one willfully turns their heart away from Christ and his love. (Ephesians 2:8; Romans 5:8)

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Ephesians 2:8

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

7. Giving

We believe that regular giving through tithes and offerings is a privilege and should be practiced eagerly by every believer. Giving is, however not reserved just to money. We believe that our time, our resources, and abilities should also be given freely to the Lord by serving Him in your local church. (Malachi 3:10; 2 Corinthians 9:7)

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. Malachi 3:10

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7