

## **StEP CC Belief and Practice**

At StEP CC we believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit and trust in the Bible as His message to us. We preach Jesus Christ crucified, died and risen again and believe everyone may have eternal life by grace, through faith in the work of Jesus. We believe that everyone is made equal by God, and so all are welcome.

### **What We Believe:**

We believe in one God existing in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in God as Eternal, Creator, Controller and Holy Judge and yet personal; a loving Father.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son, who being God, came to this world as a human person, lived perfectly, and died to take the punishment for our sin.

We believe He rose again from death, is alive today, and will return in person as King of all.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, a person who enters the lives of all who trust in Jesus Christ, and brings God's power to them.

We believe God has spoken to us through the Bible, which gives us our authority for what we believe and how we should live.

We believe God accepts and forgives the sin of all who trust in Jesus Christ, and gives them eternal life. This is the only way of salvation.

We believe the church of Jesus Christ includes all who trust and follow him, and in obedience to him we should practice:

- The regular observance of the Lord's Supper.
- Baptism by immersion in water, of those who confess their faith in Jesus Christ.

### **Practice:**

In seeking to be loyal to the Lord and to the principles of His Word (the Bible) as we understand them, certain principles in our church practice may differ from other church denominations in matters of church function. Among these are the following:

1. Christ is the only head of the church - Ephesians 5:23; Colossians 1: 18. We believe that every local church is directly accountable to Christ and to no one else.
2. We believe in the Priesthood of all believers - 1 Peter 2:5-9. We do not see any division in the Bible between believers such as a clergy on one hand, and a laity or common people on the other hand.
3. Every person in Christ has been given a spiritual gift to use in building up others in the church - Ephesians 4:11.12; 1 Corinthians 12.
4. We see in God's Word a pattern of shared leadership, a group of elders who are responsible for the church - Philippians 1:1; Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 3:5-9
5. We see that the New Testament indicates a weekly observance of the Lord's Supper (Communion) - Acts 20:7.
6. We see in scripture that baptism by immersion in water, of those who confess their faith in Jesus Christ is an act of obedience - Acts 8:29-39; Matthew 28:19.20.