

SOME OF OUR DEFINING ASSUMPTIONS

- * The Bible is the authoritative Word of God and is the primary means of spiritual growth.
- * Church should equip, train and teach people to live a Christian life through all of life's seasons and transitions.
- * The primary source of the ability to minister comes from prayer and personal devotion.
- * Biblical Christianity puts the emphasis on what God has done for us, not on what we can do for Him.
- * Concern for the poor, sinners, widows and orphans grows as the Christian grows in God's love.
- * It is normal for every Christian to give and serve.
- * Suffering is part of every life and is beneficial to Christian growth.
- * The Holy Spirit is willing and able to break in and carry on His work in non-spectacular, non-manipulative and surprising ways.
- * No two churches are alike and each should express its God-given identity to the glory of God. Conflict with one another is a normal part of life and the Christian experience. Conflict within a fellowship is used by God to develop many positive qualities in Christians that are important and cannot be developed without conflict.
- * People who want friends should show themselves friendly.
- * Where God guides He provides.
- * Just as individuals are required to give in order to grow and be obedient, so the local church has an obligation to give to those from whom it derives no direct benefit in order to grow, be obedient and fruitful. Without consistent giving of time, energy and money, both churches and individual Christians become stagnant.
- * Something happens when people are drawn together to worship God that no other feature of human existence can accomplish.
- * Leadership in the church means serving and is functional. It has nothing to do with title, power or position.
- * There is no substitute for the constant, regular preaching, teaching and reading of the Word of God.
- * The Church is a Hospital, a Family, a Seminary, a Temple, and an Army.