

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The El Shaddai Christian Church (ESCC) acknowledges the Scriptures as its ultimate standard. The scriptures are inspired by God and useful for teaching, correcting, rebuking and giving instruction for right living. (2 Tim 3:16).

1. GOD

We believe in a loving God who is personal, Spirit, infinite, eternal, present in every place and Lord of all.

2. TRINITY

We believe that the Trinity is the unity of the Godhead in whom there are three persons - the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit who are of one substance, equal in power and glory.

3. CREATION AND THE FALL

We believe God created man in His own image. Adam, the "first man", was created by God and he represents all mankind. He sinned and thus incurred the penalty of spiritual and physical death. As a result, all mankind are subject to death, inherit a sinful nature and are estranged from God. All sin proceeds from this fall and no man is able to deliver himself from sinfulness.

4. JESUS

We believe that Jesus is the eternal Son of God who became man and lived amongst us. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born to the virgin Mary. He is fully God and fully man and the mediator between God and man. We are saved by Him alone.

We believe that Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit to proclaim and establish the Kingdom of God amongst men which He did by His perfect life and obedience even unto death on the cross, satisfying Divine justice and obtained for us the forgiveness of sins, reconciliation to God and the gift of eternal life.

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus on the third day, His ascension to heaven, where as our High Priest He intercedes on our behalf and sits at the right hand of the Father as Head of the Church, clothed with authority and power as Lord of all.

We believe that on a day known only to God, the Lord Jesus Christ will come again from heaven with power and great glory. This is the hope of the Church for which we wait with sober watchfulness and diligence that we may be found ready at His coming.

5. HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the Holy Spirit. He works freely as He wills, bringing mankind to salvation and empowerment.

We believe in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Scripture teaches that the Father never withholds the Holy Spirit from any who ask for Him. The Spirit leads us, comforts us, convicts and encourages us. He empowers believers for service and from Him flow the supernatural gifts.

6. BORN AGAIN

We believe that all who repent of their sin and receive Jesus Christ by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit and become children of God.

7. SANCTIFICATION

We believe that without holiness no man can see God. We believe that sanctification is the process of grace, which starts when we are born again and continues throughout our lives to grow in holiness after the image of our Lord. We believe in the biblical principle of heterosexual relationships between natural man and natural woman and that this is the only marriage that constitutes holy matrimony.

8. THE CHURCH

We believe in one Church of which Christ is the head.

We believe that the Church is made up of all who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ and regenerated by the Holy Spirit. We believe that being born again with the outworking of this in personal confession and commitment to the purposes of Jesus, are essentials for partnership with the El Shaddai fellowship.

9. MINISTRY

We believe God raises up people to equip the church for works of service. We recognise the "Five Fold" ministries of the apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher and believe in the "Priesthood of **ALL** believers".

10. EVANGELISM

We believe that the primary work of the Church is to finish the great commission. It is thus the privilege of every Christian to make the Great Commission the primary focus of their walk with Jesus.

11. SACRAMENTS

We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the two sacraments instituted by the Lord Jesus Christ to be observed as acts of obedience, faith and as a perpetual witness to the Lordship of Jesus.

We believe that the Baptism in water of a believer, in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is a confession of their identification with Christ in His burial and resurrection.

We believe that the Lord's Supper, in which bread and wine are given and received, is a thankful remembrance of Jesus and of His sacrificial death on the cross until He comes again.

12. LEADERSHIP

We believe that God raises up and appoints leaders who are responsible for shepherding the sheep.

We believe that leaders are called to govern diligently and that all partners are called to pray for and submit to their leaders that their work will not be a burden but a joy. We believe that the leaders are responsible for exercising discipline according to the Scriptural pattern.

13. TITHING

We believe that the Scripture teaches that part of our response to God's love is to bring our tithes and offerings into His storehouse

14. JUDGEMENT AND ETERNAL LIFE

We believe God will judge the just and the unjust on the basis of righteousness in Christ Jesus. The righteous shall be separated from the wicked. The wicked shall go away to eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.

Note: The above is a summary of the most important aspects by way of a Statement of Faith. There are many additional aspects of our faith, which are only summarised above. The Church is open to further truth, which the Holy Spirit may illuminate from the Scriptures.