

MUSTARD'S STATEMENT OF FAITH

Mustard draws together a diverse group of people to minister to secondary students. We celebrate this diversity as a vibrant marker of the Kingdom of God. Those in any level of service with Mustard are united by our essential beliefs, which are articulated below. We encourage thoughtful and prayerful consideration on secondary matters of faith. Whilst recognising there will be differences, we expect these will be expressed with graciousness and love, and not diminish or contravene any of the following core statements.

GOD

We believe in one God in three persons: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Dt 6:4, Mt 28:19, 1 Pet 1:2). He is the Sovereign Lord, Creator and Sustainer of the universe (Gen 1:1, Rom 11:36, Is 42:5), who Himself is without beginning or end (Col 1:16-17, Rev 1:8).

CHRIST

We believe that Jesus Christ is the unique Son of God (Mt 3:17, Jn 3:16) who being fully God, took on the role of a servant as a man (Phil 2: 6-8, Col 2:9) in order to become the mediator between ourselves and the Father (Jn 14:6, 2 Cor 5:20-21).

GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus was crucified, buried and raised bodily on the third day (1 Cor 15: 3-4), substantiating His claims as the Messiah (Jn 4:25-26) and making provision for the forgiveness of sins based upon His perfect sacrifice for our sakes (2 Cor 5:21).

BIBLE

We believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God (2 Pet 1: 19-21, 1 Cor 2:12-13). God's word is our primary authority for faith and practice, being without error and accurate in its original record and relevant in its application to our daily lives (2 Tim 3:16- 17).

PEOPLE

We believe that people are created in God's own image and therefore matter to God (Gen 1:26- 27), as spiritual beings. All people possess personality, moral discernment, and the capacity to know the Creator God. Sin, however, is a barrier to our relationship with God (Gen 3:1-8, Rom 3:10-12, 23) and impairs our capacity to know Him and lead God honouring lives apart from Jesus Christ.

SALVATION

We believe that no one can obtain forgiveness of sins without a personal commitment to Jesus and His payment for sin on the cross (Rom 3:23-24, Jn 1:12). Leading a 'good life' does not earn God's saving grace (Eph 2:9, Titus 3:5-6), it is only through the goodness of Jesus Christ that we are made right with God the Father (Heb 10:14, Phil 3:7-9).

HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that all who have received Christ are united into one body through the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 12:12-13). Upon receiving Christ by faith, we receive the Holy Spirit, who acts to seal us in the family of God (Eph 1:13-14) and to empower us in the full life that Christ offers us (Jn 10:10), marked by Christlike character (Gal 5:22-23) and loving service to one another (Phil 2:3-4, Eph 2:10).

LOVE

We believe that God is love (1 Jn 4:16), and creating the world was an act of love. God showed His perfect love by sending His Son Jesus Christ into the world so that we might live (1 John 4:9). Jesus said the whole Old Testament is summarised by these two great commands: to love God with every fibre of your being, and to love others as you love yourself (Mt 22:34-40).

MISSION

We believe that those who have been made right with God have been sent into the world to alert all nations to the good news of the gospel (Mt 28:16-20). This mission is done in two ways: proclamation of the gospel through evangelism (Acts 1:8, 1 Pet 3:15), and demonstration through acts of love and justice (1 Jn 4:7). We believe that it is the Holy Spirit who ultimately draws people into a saving relationship with God (Jn 16:7-11, Jn 6:44).

NEW HEAVEN & NEW EARTH

We believe that Jesus Christ will come again. He will come to gather up those who love Him (1 Thess 4:15-18), and judge all evil (Mt 24: 27-31, Rev 1:7), restoring all of creation and establishing His Kingdom (Rev 21:1, Dan 7:27).

CHURCH

We believe that as Christians we belong to each other, joined together as one body with Christ as the Head (1 Cor 12:12). Essential to sustaining the body is the practice of gathering in Christian community on a regular basis, to worship the risen Christ (Jn 4:23-24, Phil 2:9-11), to proclaim the good news (Acts 1:8, Mt 28:19-20) and to encourage one another toward love and good deeds (Heb 10:24-25).