



SURRENDERED MINISTRIES

Mission:

Surrendered Ministries of Texas exists to make disciples of all nations for the glory of God through gatherings, community, mission, unity, and multiplication.

Why Surrendered?

We aim to surrender all that we do as individuals and as a church to the will and purpose of God. Surrendered is the posture of life that God calls us to live. We don't surrender to the things of this world but to Jesus Christ and His teachings of loving God and loving others. It's through His grace that we are empowered to lead others to a surrendered life to Him and eternal life. Only in Christianity do we have victory through surrender.

Beliefs:

- 1) The Scriptures are true, authoritative and sufficient (*Psalm 19:7-11; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21*).
- 2) There is only one God (*Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 46:9-10; John 17:3, 1 Corinthians 8:4-6; 1 Timothy 2:5*).
- 3) The Father is God. The Son is God. The Holy Spirit is God. The Father is neither the Son nor the Holy Spirit. The Son is neither the Father nor the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is neither the Father nor the Son (*Genesis 1:26; Psalm 45:6-7; Psalm 110:1; Matthew 3: 13-17; Matthew 28: 17-20; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6*).
- 4) I am, along with all humanity (Christ excluded), by birth and action a sinner (*Genesis 6:5; Psalm 51:5; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:23; 5:8, 12-21, 7:18; Ephesians 2:1-3*).
- 5) The deserved penalty for sin is death, both physical and spiritual (*Genesis 2:15-17; Genesis 3:19, Romans 5:12; 6:23, James 1:14-15*).
- 6) Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, was born of a virgin and is both fully God and fully human (*Matthew 1:20; Luke 2:52; John 1:1-4, 14; Colossians 1:15-20; Hebrews 1:1-3*).
- 7) Jesus Christ died as my substitute to pay the penalty for my sin (*John 1:29; 10:1-18, Romans 5:8, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 1:4; 1 Peter 3:18*).
- 8) Jesus Christ physically rose from the dead (*Matthew 28:1-20; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-53; John 1:20-21:25; 1 Corinthians 15:12-34*).
- 9) Jesus Christ physically ascended into heaven and will one day physically return (*John 14:3; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Hebrews 9:28; 1 John 3:2; Revelation 1:7*).
- 10) There will be a future physical resurrection of the dead. Those who trust in Jesus Christ alone will be raised to eternal reward. Those who have not trusted in Jesus Christ will be raised to eternal punishment (*Matthew 25:31-46; John 5:28-29; Acts 24-15*).
- 11) Only by trusting in the person and work of Jesus Christ alone can I be reconciled to God and experience true life and joy (*John 3:18, 14:6; Acts 4:12; Romans 3:21-26; 1 Timothy 2: 5-6*).

Doctrinal Statements

God - is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He eternally exists in three distinct persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (commonly known as the Trinity). These three are co-equal and are one God. (Genesis 1:1,26,27, 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2)

Jesus Christ - is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to heaven's glory and will return again someday to earth to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. (Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:22, 23; John 1:1-5; 14:10-30; Acts 1:9-11; Romans 1:3, 4; 6:6; 7:4-6; 8:1-4; 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4; 1 Timothy 6:14, 15; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 4:14, 15)

The Holy Spirit - is co-equal with the Father and the Son of God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives every believer spiritual gifts when they are saved. Christians are to yield to and trust the Holy Spirit to enable them to live holy, loving, and productive lives that bear much fruit and glorify God. (John 16:7-13, 14:16,17; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; 2 Corinthians 3:17; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 1:13; 5:18)

The Bible - is God's Word to us. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is the truth without any mixture of error. (Psalm 119:105, 160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5; 2 Timothy 3:16; 1:13; 2 Peter 1:20, 21)

People - are made in the spiritual image of God and are to be like Him in character. People are the supreme object of God's creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, they are all marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God and His word called "sin". This sin has separated mankind from God. (Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; 59:1,2; Romans 3:23)

Salvation - is God's free gift to us but we must accept it. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. When we turn from our sin and turn to Jesus in faith we are saved. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith. We are saved from hell to be with Jesus forever in Heaven. (John 14:6, 1:12; Romans 5:1; 6:23; Galatians 3:26; Ephesians 2:8, 9; Titus 3:5)

Baptism - is immersing a willing Christian under water in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience that identifies a person with Jesus Christ. (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 1:9; Acts 8:36-39; 18:8)

Repentance - is turning from your sins. There are several lists of sins against God in the New Testament. (Matthew 4:17, 3:8, I Corinthians 6, Galatians 5, Ephesians 4, Colossians 3, Romans 1, 2, I Timothy 3 and James)

Eternal Security of the Believer- Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. If you have been genuinely saved, you cannot lose it. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. It is the grace and

power of God that gives us this security. We don't think a person can lose his or her salvation. Salvation is a gift based on the work of Jesus Christ, not our own. (John 10:28-29; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25, 10:10, 14; 1 Peter 1:3-5)

Eternity - People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or we will exist eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and hell are real places of eternal existence. (Matthew 25:31-46; John 3:16; 14:17; Romans 6:23; 8:17-18; 1 Corinthians 2:7-9; Revelation 20:15)

Denominational Affiliation - Surrendered Ministries is a conservative, evangelical, interdenominational Bible Church. We are not affiliated with any one denomination or organization, but we work with all those who confess Jesus as Lord. (Psalms 133:1; Romans 12:16; 14:19; 15:5; Ephesians 4:4-6)

Spiritual Gifts - are special abilities the Holy Spirit gives whenever, wherever, and to whomever He wants. These gifts always glorify Jesus and build up the church. We let the Spirit be in charge of His gifts. (Acts 2, Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12:14, Ephesians 4)

Divorce and Remarriage - God hates divorce and so do about half the people who go through one. We do not encourage divorce. We encourage reconciliation and restoration of marriage. We recognize divorce as the legal and binding dissolution of a marriage. We do not make marriage, divorce, or remarriage the single qualifying or disqualifying issues for leadership in the church. (Deuteronomy 24, Jeremiah 3, Malachi 2, Matthew 5:27-48, 19, Mark 10, Luke 16, 1 Corinthians 7)

Angels and Demons - are spiritual beings that work to carry out the purposes of God or Satan. (Daniel 6:22; Matthew 4:10-11; Acts 12:7; Ephesians 6:10-18; Hebrews 1:14)

Missions - We support missionaries and mission organizations on five of the seven continents. Our main support goes to church-planting missionaries and organizations. (Matthew 24:14, 28:18-20; Acts 1:7-8; Romans 15:20-22)

Abortion - We are pro-life and take an active stand against those who promote or support abortion. We show mercy and kindness to those who have had an abortion. (Jeremiah 1:5; Mark 9:36-37; Luke 18:15-17)

Government - We encourage our members to educate themselves, vote, attend meetings, and get involved in government at all levels. (Romans 13, 1 Timothy 2:1-6)

Church Membership - is a commitment between a Christian and a local church, an agreement to support and encourage one another in life and ministry. (Acts 2:41). We do not contact your old church when you join Surrendered Ministries.

Priesthood of Every Believer - The Bible teaches that every Christian is called to fulltime Christian living, regardless of his or her vocation. We practice the truth that every believer is a minister by encouraging every member to find a place of service and ministry. Every believer has direct access to God through prayer and Bible reading. (1 Peter 2:5, Revelation 1:6)

Tithing to the Local Church - At Surrendered Ministries, we practice tithing for the support of Christ's body, the church, in obedience to God's Word. We recognize that giving 10% of our income is a Biblical

principle that honors God and requires faith in God as our financial provider. (Proverbs 3:9; Malachi 3:10; Matthew 23:23)

Spirit-led Living - We believe the only way to live the Christian life is by trusting in God's Spirit within us. We seek to practice a daily dependence not on ourselves, but on Christ with us to enable us to live holy, loving, and productive lives that bear much fruit and glorify God! (Ephesians 5:18; Philippians 2:13) Jesus said, "I am the Vine, you are the branches. If you abide in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; but apart from me you can do nothing." -John 15:5

Telling Others About Christ - It is the privilege of every Christian to share the Good News with those whom God brings into our lives. We share our personal experience about Christ and invite friends to church. "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." -1 Peter 3:15

Statement on Marriage and Sexuality

It is the biblical position that marriage involves the union of one man and one woman in permanent sacred fidelity. Though various cultures and customs have evolving definitions of marriage, it is God alone who has ultimate authority to prescribe and describe the marital relationship (*Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:1-9, Mark 10:1-12*).

Furthermore, sexual intimacy is only properly exercised and pursued within the confines of this marital relationship. Sexual immorality, defined as any sexual activity outside of the boundaries of the sacred marital relationship between one man and one woman, is clearly and expressly prohibited by the Lord (*Matthew 15:19, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, Hebrews 13:4*).

As a consequence, the Church regards any and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography or even lustful intent toward such, as sinful and ultimately unsatisfying. Moreover, the Church also regards as sinful the intent or desire to surgically alter one's biological sex to a different sex.

Since the body is a creation of God, the Church holds sexual identity to be biologically determined, and associated gender norms are to be observed as appropriate to biblical standards. Disagreement with one's biological sex only leads to spiritual confusion and emotional chaos (*Genesis 1:27, Romans 1:26-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11*).

In order to preserve the function and integrity of the Church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical example to the Church Members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by the Church in any capacity or united to the Church in membership should abide by and agree to this, "Statement on Marriage and Sexuality" and conduct themselves accordingly.

Though sinful sexual expression is egregious (as is all sin), the gospel provides redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (*1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Ephesians 2:1-10, Titus 3:3-7*).

Furthermore, there is a difference between temptation and unrepented sin. Jesus was tempted in all ways as we are, yet He never sinned. Members, employees, volunteers and attendees of the Church wrestling with all manner of sexual temptation will find a Church ready to point them to Jesus and join with them to fight for their obedience to Christ. Jesus called the weary and heavy-laden to Himself. As a church desiring to follow Christ fully, the Church will be a safe place for men and women fighting sexual temptations of all kinds. For those fighting temptation and repenting of sin, the Church will provide love, care and direction (*Matthew 11:28-30, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Hebrews 2:17-18, Hebrews 4:14-16*).

The Church's Statement on Marriage and Sexuality does not provide grounds for bigotry, bullying or hate, as we fully believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect and dignity, regardless of his or her lifestyle. Hateful and harassing behavior

or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated as sinful and are not in accordance with the Scriptures nor the doctrines of the Church.

This specifically gives the Elders the right and authority to prohibit acts or omissions, including but not limited to *(a)* permitting any Church assets or property, whether real property, personal property, intangible property, or any property or asset of any kind that is subject to the direction or control of the Church, to be used in any manner that would be—or, in the sole determination of the Elders, could be perceived by any person to be— inconsistent with this Statement on Marriage and Sexuality; and *(b)* permitting any Church facilities to be used by any person, organization, corporation, or group that would or might use such facilities to convey, intentionally or by implication, what might be perceived as a favorable impression about any definition of marriage other than stated the statement of beliefs.

The Church's Statement on Marriage and Sexuality is based upon God's will for human life as conveyed to us through the Scriptures, upon which this Church has been founded and anchored, and this shall not be subject to change through popular vote; referendum; prevailing opinion of Members or the general public; influence of or interpretation by any government authority, agency, or official action; or legal developments on the local, state, or federal level.