
MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH**To The One God and Father**

It is impossible to please God without faith.¹ Only through faith may we receive his grace that brings salvation.² And according to faith we receive the Spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry, "Abba! Father!"³ Indeed, God has provided a way that we may become his children through faith in his Gospel.⁴ No title of God more fully expresses our relationship with God than that of Father.⁵ We consider God to be our Father not only in the sense that we are his creation, but also with great intimacy as children being taught, raised up, and provided for under his care and protection. Through faith God takes custody of us; as our Father desires that we trust and submit to him as his children.⁶ Thus, our general purpose towards God is obedient faith.

The greatest commandment is "you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."⁷ God is a loving and he expects us to love him and abide in his love. God expects us to have mercy as he has mercy, to forgive as he forgives - even to be holy as he is holy.⁸ And this holiness is perfected in the fear of our God.⁹ Our reverence gives us conviction to follow his commandments and sorrow in our disobedience. By sanctifying ourselves the truth of God's word, and by the Spirit that he has made to dwell in us, we are to become one with the Father, even as Christ was one with the Father.¹⁰ For those who are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God.¹¹ To be truly his worshipers, we must worship God in Spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such people to worship him.¹²

This church is thus organized to facilitate worship and devotion to God. We shall pray to the Father at all times and rejoice always in our giving thanks.¹³ We are to praise the Father in word, song, and dance. As sons of God, we are to grow in our relationship with our Father as we increase in his wisdom and in his favor.¹⁴ We are to be taught and encouraged by the preaching of his word as we subject ourselves to the authority of God's truth. Surely, to be transformed as sons of God, we must be committed to repentance, discipline and sacrifice in faithful obedience. May we be formed and shaped by our Father as we manifest the glory of the Most-High!

¹ Genesis 26:4-5, Habakkuk 2:4, Mark 11:22, Acts 14:22, Rom 1:16-17, Rom 3:23-31, 4, 5:1-2, Gal 3:7-9, Heb 10:38-39, 11:6

² Gal 3:7-9, Ephes. 2:8

³ Rom 8:15, Gal 4:5-6

⁴ Gal 3:26

⁵ Luke 11:2, 1 Cor 8:6, Heb 12:7-9

⁶ Rom 9:26, Rom 16:26, 2 Cor 6:18

⁷ Mark 12:30

⁸ Luke 6:35-36, Luke 11:4

⁹ 2 Cor 7:1

¹⁰ John 14:16-24, 26, 15:26, 17:11-23, Acts 2:33

¹¹ Rom 8:14

¹² John 4:23-24

¹³ Luke 6:12, Acts 6:4, Rom 12:12, Col 3:16, 4:2, Ephes 6:18, 1 Thes. 5:16-18, Philip 4:4, 4:6, Jude 1:20

¹⁴ Luke 2:40, 52, Ephes 1:17, Col 1:9, 28

To The One Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus (Yeshua) is the Messiah who will reign in the eventual kingdom of God. He is the one appointed by God to judge the world in righteousness.¹⁵ If we have faith in Christ, we shall partake of life and enter into this kingdom.¹⁶ His people are to live with the understanding that we are his bride to be presented with him at resurrection when he returns.¹⁷ By faith, our salvation comes through trusting in Jesus and following after him. Having died to our marriage with sin through the body of Christ, we now belong to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God.¹⁸ Indeed, it is through him we are made holy and receive the Holy Spirit from God.¹⁹ In our confession of Jesus as both Lord and Christ,²⁰ we must also recognize that Jesus must be our master if he is to be our savior. Thus, our ministry toward the Son of God, is to trust him by living according to his lordship. As ministers of the life that is in his name, we proclaim Jesus as the one who will judge the world in righteousness, who will uphold life in choosing who existence will remain. As it is written, "For us there is one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist."²¹

While our relationship with God is like sons to their father, our relationship with his Christ is as a wife to her husband.²² Jesus is our head and authority.²³ "For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its savior."²⁴ In marriage, two become one flesh, and we are joined into the body of our lord Jesus through the marriage of obedience and faith in his name.²⁵ Being part of his body, we are sanctified and cleansed by the washing of water (Spirit) and with the word (truth), to be presented to him in splendor, in holiness, and without blemish.²⁶ Indeed, as the lord of our salvation, Jesus is our perfect high priest.²⁷ For, "there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all."²⁸ Indeed, Jesus is the head of the church, which is his body.²⁹ While the Church consists of many different persons, we are all servants of one lord.³⁰ We shall hold fast to our head, for it is through our Christ that the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.³¹ We shall not deny, nor be led astray from sincere and pure devotion to our master and lord.³²

¹⁵ Luke 19:38, John 12:13, 1 Tim. 6:14-15, Rev 11:15, 17:14, 19:16

¹⁶ Rom. 5:1, 11

¹⁷ 1 Cor 1:7-8, 2 Cor 11:2, 1 Thes 5:23, Ephes 5:25-32, 1 Peter 1:7-9, 5:4, Rev 19:6-8

¹⁸ Rom 7:4, 14:8-9, 1 Cor 1:30, 6:15, Col 1:21-22, Ephes. 2:19-22, 1 Peter 2:1-7

¹⁹ 1 Cor 1:30

²⁰ Acts 2:36

²¹ 1 Cor.8:6

²² 2 Cor. 11:2-3, Ephes. 5:23-24

²³ 1 Cor. 11:3, 2 Cor. 11:2-3, Ephes. 5:22-23, 6:5 Col.1:18

²⁴ Ephes 5.22 (ESV)

²⁵ Ephes 5:30-31, 1 Cor. 6:15, 10:16-18

²⁶ Ephes. 5:25-27, 1 Cor. 1:30, Heb 2:17

²⁷ Col 1:22, Heb 2:17, 4:14-15, 7:3

²⁸ 1 Tim 2:5-6a

²⁹ Mark 12:10, Luke 20:17-18, Acts 4:11, Col.1:18, 2:19, 1 Cor 12:27, Ephes. 4:15, 5:22-23. 1 Peter 2:4-7

³⁰ Rom 14:4-5, 1 Cor:12:12-13

³¹ Col. 2:19, 3:15, Rom 7:4, Ephes 2:19-22, 4:15-16

³² 2 Cor 11:2-3, 1 Peter 2:25, Jude 1:4

To The Church Body

The church body refers to members of the body of Christ that are committed to the church leadership and fellowship.³³ As members of the Church of God in Christ Jesus, we are to function as a people of God united in Christ, our head.³⁴ As a body is joined together, so shall the believers of this church be joined and knit together in community. The church can be likened to a physical body being an ordered assemblage of parts that serves the body in various manners.³⁵ Direction, and support is thus distributed through the body as each member functions as part of the whole. As Christian believers, the strength of community shall assist us in all aspects of our faith. Lest true believers be forced to tarry as estranged individuals, this church is to provide a covering of fellowship, discipleship, and support in community. Essential to our vision and purpose is facilitating the government and administration of community in the exercise of faith.

The church is to facilitate the government of the church body as it acts to benefit and support, oversee, and provide services to its voluntary members. As we seek integrity and character beyond the norm, the laws and decrees of our community shall be embraced with joy as God works in us. Through community the body shall be strengthened in faith and in fortitude against worldliness. We shall strive for community according to a culture of godly principles and righteous living. In one accord we shall abide in love, be sanctified in truth, and be transformed by the power of the Spirit. The body is to develop as a unified, sanctified, and holy people as we become a renewed Christian society with a superior ethos according to the principals of truth. As God works through us, manifesting his glory, we shall become a prevailing testimony.

For this ministry to the body, the church shall establish and oversee places of worship. In the assembling of ourselves together, we are to meet for a devotion to God, the building up of the church body, and for other purposes according to Christian belief and practice. The church shall provide various services to the body regarding the needs of its members and for the realization of its purposes. Also, various resources shall be developed and providing to the body as appropriate. In addition, the church shall also raise up, license, and oversee its leaders and ministers. This Christian body shall grow with a growth that is from God - In truth, in love, and in the power of the Spirit.

³³ Col 1:18, 24

³⁴ Ephes 1:22, 5:23, Col 1:18 1 Tim. 3:15

³⁵ Rom 12:4-5, 1 Cor 12:27

To Christendom at Large

While not everyone who confesses to be Christian truly is, the ministry to those who confess faith in Jesus as their Savior is to deliver believers in to the fullness of the Gospel in truth, in the Spirit, and according to love. We shall advance the belief and practice of the first century followers of Jesus.

In reclaiming apostolic Christianity, the church confession of the faith shall oppose the distortions of orthodox (accepted) theology that became the prevailing Christian tradition and remains commonplace in popular Christianity. We are to present Christ as evident in the Scriptures rather than with the overlay of false abstractions with which Jesus was later vested in post-apostolic times. Moreover, our testimony to the faith shall contest the many widespread heresies, orthodox and otherwise, that have compromised Christianity throughout history. Correct teaching of the Gospel with proper emphasis shall be ministered to our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world. The church shall become a powerhouse for the truth of God's word rather than of the traditions and philosophies of men. Indeed, the church is to contest traditional strongholds, as it becomes a vehicle for the restoration of Christianity. As believers are sanctified in truth and liberated from the bondage of false religious systems and worldly philosophy, we shall champion a revolution in the restoration of true Christian doctrine.

Our ministry to Christians at large shall also be for restoring the fullness of the Spirit as manifest among believers. A revival of apostolic Christianity must include spiritual renewal wherein the supernatural power of God is wrought in believers. The church shall embody new life in the Spirit rather than a dry form of religion.³⁶ We shall encourage all to believe not only in word but also in power and in the Holy Spirit with full conviction.³⁷ Indeed, we seek to impart the Gospel not as opinion but rather as conviction with a righteous fear of God. The Gospel shall be realized with a sense of awe as the hand of the Lord is with us and his presence is made manifest among us.³⁸ The church shall advance the supernatural work of God including the baptism of the Holy Spirit, the exercise of spiritual gifts (especially prophecy), healings and deliverance, as well as other signs and wonders wrought by the Spirit. We shall also act to provoke Christians into greater zeal as we contend against influences toward becoming worldly, lukewarm and complacent. As the first Christians were aflame for God, this ministry shall impart regeneration and revival in the Holy Spirit.

The church is also to minister the model of fellowship and abiding in love taught by Christ and his apostles. In love we shall reach out to Christians and encourage uncommon unity in the bond of Christ. We shall minister brotherly love as we encourage Christians to be joined together in true community. Indeed this church shall work to bring estranged believers into the body by offering the bond of love in community.

³⁶ 2 Cor 3:6

³⁷ 1 Thess 1:5, 1 Cor 1:40, 2:4-5, Heb 2:3-4

³⁸ Acts 11:21

To The Patrons of Abraham

We are worshipers of the God of Abraham who is the only true God. To those who follow the faith of Abraham, we shall minister the promise God gave in making him the father of many nations.³⁹ As Abraham's faith was credited as righteousness, God now counts faith in his Christ as righteousness. Truly, Jesus is Abraham's seed wherefore God spoke to Abraham saying, 'And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed'.⁴⁰ We acknowledge that God was not referring to many seeds but the one seed who is Christ, our proclamation is that the promise of Abraham is realized in Christ.⁴¹ In all nations, those who are of faith in God, and his provision for salvation, these are the sons of Abraham, and if sons, heirs according to promise. Central to the covenant God made with Abraham is the blessing of Jesus. Abraham rejoiced to foresee his day, and was glad.⁴²

To patrons of Abraham, who don't accept Jesus as being the Christ, we shall deliver the good news that God truly has made provision for our salvation through Jesus. Yet, our confession shall be free from the many corruptions that compromised the testimony of God's Gospel as we reject distortions to Christianity whereas Jesus has falsely been accredited as God himself, and whereas God has distorted as consisting of three persons in tri-unity. Truly, there is one God - the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob - the God and Father of our lord Christ Jesus. To the patrons of Abraham, we shall deliver the Gospel as not opposing Abraham's faith but rather fulfilling it.

In truth, the ministry of the Gospel shall be extended to the Jewish people, the decedents of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, who have not received Yeshua as their Messiah. To them we shall proclaim Jesus as the descendent of the patriarch David who truly is the one who will usher in the everlasting kingdom of God and rule in the new Jerusalem. The salvation of Israel is through God's established one; Yeshua Messiah. Our ministry to the Jews shall be free from the anti-semantic tendencies of post-apostolic Christianity but rather with the understanding that salvation has come from the house of Judah. Our faith is rooted in Judaism, in which, the requirements of the Law and the proclamation of the prophets are fulfilled by Yeshua Messiah. We shall deliver to the Jewish people the authenticity of Jesus being the king of the Jews - their Messiah and ours.

We shall also minister Christ in truth to followers of the movement of Islam founded by Muhammad according to the Kor'an. As representing true Christianity, and not the perversion of the 7th century church that Muhammad contested, we shall bring Muslims into the truth of Christ in harmony with belief in God's oneness. As Muhammad said, "Say not Trinity detest" we likewise assert that God is one.⁴³ For, as Christ himself said, "I ascend to my God and your God", we dare not exceed the boundaries of our religion. And we are in agreement where it says "the similitude of Jesus before Allah is that of Adam"⁴⁴. Central to our gospel is this Jesus, who having been created miraculously in the likeness of the first Adam, is unlike all other men born of natural conception. To Muslims we minister Christ as the last Adam,⁴⁵ Abraham's seed and the salvation of God.

³⁹ Acts 13:26

⁴⁰ Gen 22:18, 26:4, Acts 3:24

⁴¹ Gal 3:16, Acts 3:25-28

⁴² John 8:56, Gal 3:8

⁴³ Surah 4:171, 5:72-73

⁴⁴ Surah 3:59 (also 3:47)

⁴⁵ Rom 5:14, 1 Cor 15:45

To all the world

Truly, God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.⁴⁶ For, in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham has come to the Gentiles, so that they might receive the promised Spirit through faith.⁴⁷ Indeed, this promise is for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.⁴⁸ And, as God our savior desires all people to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth,⁴⁹ we shall be a light to the Gentiles and bring salvation in Jesus name to the ends of the earth.⁵⁰ As there is one mediator between God and men, we shall preach to the Gentiles the testimony of Christ Jesus who gave himself as a ransom for all.⁵¹ And while the day of the Lord has not yet come, we know that God is not slow to fulfill his promise, but patient, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.⁵² Thus we shall preach, "Repent for the kingdom of God is at hand"⁵³ while we testify to the name of the Lord Jesus.⁵⁴ Using various methods and resources, we shall spread the truth of the Gospel to the world.

As the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power, we shall boldly proclaim the Gospel in the power of the Spirit.⁵⁵ Our ministry shall not be only of wise words of wisdom, but in the demonstration of the Spirit and of power.⁵⁶ By the Spirit we shall be endowed with power from on high testify of Christ to the ends of the earth.⁵⁷ As God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power, we desire God's hand be with us to do good and to heal those oppressed by the devil.⁵⁸ Thus, our prayer is this; Father, "grant that your servants may speak your word with all boldness, while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." ⁵⁹

With love we shall reach out into the dying world and proclaim to humanity the hope of life in the kingdom of God. Our ambition is to serve the world for the cause of Christ. In love we shall be servants to all practicing charity and compassion even unto loving our enemies and praying for those who persecute us. As God so loved us that he sent his only Son into the world that we might live through him, we are to love others in the hope they might repent and live. Thus, we are to take up our cross and go out into the world preaching repentance and baptism in the name of Jesus Christ. For it is on account of love that we ministers of so great a salvation. With the forgiveness of sins, may the promise the Spirit be poured out upon all flesh!⁶⁰

⁴⁶ Acts 10:34-34

⁴⁷ Gal 3:8, 14

⁴⁸ Acts 2:39

⁴⁹ 1 Tim 2:3-4, John 3:16

⁵⁰ Acts 13:47

⁵¹ 1 Tim 2:5-7

⁵² 2 Peter 3:9-10, John 3:16

⁵³ Mark 1:15, Luke 4:43, 8:1, 10:9, 16:16, Acts 1:3, 19:8, 28:23, 31

⁵⁴ Acts 8:12

⁵⁵ 1 Cor 4:20

⁵⁶ 1 Cor 2:4-5, 1Thes 1:5, Acts 4:33

⁵⁷ Luke 24:49, Acts 1:8

⁵⁸ Acts 10:38, 11:21

⁵⁹ Acts 4:29-30

⁶⁰ Acts 2:38