

SESSION TWO



The GVBC Statements

1 Cor 1:10 Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree, and there be no divisions among you, but you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.

OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

Why we exist as a church

Our purpose statement: *Grassy Valley Baptist Church exist to be a family of Believers who have an Authentic Passion for Jesus and others.*

How do we accomplish this task?

By obeying the “Great Commandment” and the “Great Commission”.

The Great Commandment: *Matt 22:36-40 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And He said to him, ”’ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ “This is the great and foremost commandment. “The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ “On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”*

The Great Commission: *Matt 28:19-20 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

- To “Love God with all your heart” is **Worship**.
- To “Love your neighbor as yourself” is **Ministry**.
- To “Go...make disciples” is **Evangelism**.
- To “baptize...” is to incorporate into **Fellowship**.
- To “Teach them to obey all things” is **Discipleship**.

GVBC Exists:

1. To celebrate God's presence (Worship)
2. To demonstrate God's love (Ministry)
3. To communicate God's Word (Evangelism)
4. To commit to God's Family (Fellowship)
5. To educate God's people (Discipleship)

The **purpose** of this church is to proclaim to all people the good news that Christ is the way of salvation; to magnify God through the preaching and teaching of the Holy Bible; to promote individual and collective divine worship; to provide opportunities for training, service, fellowship, and Christian growth; to administer the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper; to care for the physical and spiritual needs of men; and to strengthen and uphold the moral fiber of its members and society in general.

Our purpose statement: Grassy Valley Baptist Church exists to be a Family of Believers who have an Authentic Passion for Jesus and others.

We exist to celebrate God's presence

Worship

Matt 4:10 "... For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'"

John 4:23-24 "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Expressions of Worship

Singing	Ephesians 5:19
Commitment	Romans 12:1-2
Praying	Psalms 95:6
Hearing the Word	John 17:17
Giving	1 Corinthians 16:1-2
Baptism	Romans 6:3-4
Meditating	Habakkuk 2:20
Lord's Supper	1 Corinthians 11:23-26

We exist to demonstrate God's love

Ministry

John 13:35 "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

(also: 1 John 3:16-17; Matthew 25:34-40; Hebrews 13:16; Romans 12:13)

A very important part of our ministry here at GVBC is our Sunday School. Every member needs to be an active part of it!

1 Cor 12:4-7 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord.

And there are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all {persons.} But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1 Cor 12:27 Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

We exist to communicate God's Word

Evangelism

Eph 3:10 in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly {places.}

Rom 10:13-14 for "Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved." How then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

We exist to commit to God's family

Fellowship

Ps 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!

1 Jn 1:7 but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

We exist to educate God's people

Discipleship

Heb 6:1 *Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity...*

2 Pet 3:18 *but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

Eph 4:11-13 *And He gave some {as} apostles, and some {as} prophets, and some {as} evangelists, and some {as} pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.*

At GVBC...

Every member is a minister.

Every task is important.

OUR FAITH

What We Believe

➤ **In essential beliefs – we have unity.**

Eph 4:4-6 *{There is} one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.*

➤ **In non-essential beliefs – we have liberty.**

Rom 14:4, 12, 22 *Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and stand he will, for the Lord is able to make him stand. (12) So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God. (22) The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves.*

➤ **In all our beliefs – we show love.**

1 Cor 13:2 *And if I have {the gift of} prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.*

Statement of Faith

As a member of the Southern Baptist Convention:

We Believe that there is one God, manifested in three persons: the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Genesis 1:26
Matt. 28:19-20
2 Cor. 13:14

We Believe that Jesus is the begotten Son of God, was born of a virgin, is wholly God and wholly man, lived a sinless life, died as a substitutionary sacrifice for the sins of mankind, was buried, arose from the grave and ascended into heaven.

John 1:14
John 3:16
Matt. 4; Luke 4
Heb. 4:15
2 Cor. 5:21

We Believe in the literal, bodily return of Jesus Christ to earth

Revelation 19

We Believe that the Bible is the Word of God without any error, the sole authority for life.

2 Tim. 3:16-17
2 Peter 1:20-21

We Believe that man is a special creation of God, made in His image.

Genesis 1:26-27

We Believe that mankind fell through the sin of the first man, Adam, and all men are sinners in need of salvation.

Genesis 3:15
Romans 5:12-15

We Believe that salvation is a gift of grace from God, received through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:23
Titus 3:5
Eph. 2:8-9

We Believe that every person who truly is saved is eternally secure in the Lord Jesus Christ.

John 10:28-30
Eph. 1:13-14
Heb. 7:25
Heb. 10:10, 14

We Believe that those persons who die without faith in Jesus Christ spend eternity in Hell and those persons who die with their sins forgiven, through faith in Christ, spend eternity in Heaven.

John 3:16
Rev. 20:14-15

We Believe that water baptism is in obedience to the command to The command of Christ and is by immersion after salvation.

Romans 6:3-10

We Believe that the local church is the local body of baptized believers With the Lord Jesus Christ as the head.

Eph. 1:22-23

We Believe that each believer has direct access to God through the Lord Jesus Christ and the Bible, God's Word.

1 Tim. 2:5-6
Heb. 10:19-26

We Believe in the separation of church and state, but not in the separation Of God and government.

1 Peter 2:13-17

What we practice!

Beliefs that are not translated into every day living are of very little use. Based on what the Bible teaches, we at GVBC feel very strongly about the following seven practices:

Bible as our sole authority.

2 Tim 3:16-17 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Since God's Word is the only completely reliable and truthful authority, being God's revelation of Himself to us, sent from Him without any mixture of error, we accept the Bible as our manual for living. Our first question when faced with a decision is, "What does the Bible say?" We practice daily Bible reading, Bible study and Bible memorization. The Bible is the basis for all we believe.

Autonomy of each local church.

Col 1:18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything.

Jesus Christ is the head of our church; not any person, group or religious organization. While recognizing the value of associating and cooperating with other groups of Christians, we believe every local church should be self-governing and independent of any denominational control. Operating under the Headship of Christ we recognize the equal responsibility of every member.

Priesthood of every believer.

1 Pet 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for {God's} own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

The Bible teaches that every Christian is called to "full time" Christian service, regardless of his or her vocation. At GVBC 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.

Tithing.

Lev 27:30 'Thus all the tithe of the land, of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S; it is holy to the LORD.

At GVBC we practice tithing for the support of Christ's Body, the local church, as God commands. We recognize that giving 10% of all of our income is the Biblical standard of giving.

Immersion

Col 2:12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

We practice baptism by immersion under water – the way Jesus was baptized, and the way the Bible commands.

Spirit-led living.

John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

We realize that the only way possible to live the Christian life is by God's power within us. Therefore, we seek to practice a daily dependence on God's Spirit to enable us to do what is right. (Philippians 2:13; Ephesians 5:18)

Telling others about Jesus Christ

1 Pet 3:15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always {being} ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

It is the responsibility of every Christian to share the Good News with those God brings along our daily path. We practice personal sharing about Jesus Christ and inviting our friends to church.

(Did you notice that we just spelled "**Baptist**?")