

# WHO WE ARE

## Statement of Faith & Beliefs

The Story Church is a **community of skeptics and believers following Jesus together**. Members of The Story strengthen our faith by pursuing Truth, challenging comfort, and inspiring deeper conversations.

### Our Mission

We exist to inspire nonreligious people to follow Jesus.

### Our Core Beliefs

1. We believe that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.
2. We believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God.
3. We believe that there is one God, the Creator and Preserver of all things, infinite in being and perfection. He exists eternally in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who are equal in power and glory.
4. We strive for ministry that is full of grace and full of truth.
5. We are committed to reaching people that no one else is reaching.
6. We are committed to relational discipleship.
7. We are engaged in being the practical hands and feet of Christ in our communities.
8. We affirm the sovereignty of God to spiritually gift all believers according to His will. It is our responsibility to equip those saints for their calling and giftedness in ministry.
9. We affirm that Christian marriage and sexual intimacy are good gifts from God. In keeping with the teachings of Scripture historically and throughout the Church universal, we believe that marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union. We believe that God intends faithfulness in marriage and celibacy in singleness.
10. We affirm the faith delivered to the saints as articulated in the [Nicene Creed](#), the [Apostle's Creed](#), and the [EUB Confession of Faith](#).

## Our Core Practices

**1. Inspiring Deeper Conversations:** By cultivating spaces and resources, wrestling with our doubts, and sharing our stories to create authentic connections with God and one another.

This means that genuinely connecting with people is more important than first trying to convert people. This means that everything we do is a chance to plant a seed through conversation. This means that sermons are a way to create dialogue and not prove a point. This means that we are not afraid to have tough conversations. This means we discuss God's word together. This means we create shared experiences through sharing our stories. This means we create connections through vulnerability. This means we listen without judgment. And this means that we value relationships over religion.

**2. Pursuing Truth:** By embracing questions, challenging assumptions, and studying the Bible to better understand God's will and the meaning of life.

This means questions are encouraged, and doubts are welcomed here. This means that curiosity strengthens, not diminishes, our faith. This means we lead with honesty about where we are in life and where we are toward God. This means that both skeptics and believers belong here, and both can step toward God with uncertainty. This means no one is expected to have all of the answers, and collectively, we strive to get the Gospel right. This means scripture, not our opinions or culture, is our guide. This, we are unwavering and unapologetic in seeking God's truth. And this means we make sense of our humanity from a Biblical perspective, and the Bible is practical for all areas of our lives.

**3. Challenging Comfort:** By resisting complacency, embracing inconvenience, and serving our city and world with the unconditional love of Jesus.

This means we do not expect perfection, and we meet people with grace and acceptance. This means we come from different places, and we do not always have to agree. This means our convictions are worth protecting, but we remain open to new practices and disciplines. This means we hurt and heal together. This means the process is just as meaningful as the miracle. This means we deal with issues honestly. This means we help people recover or discover a purpose for their life. This means that wherever you are on your faith journey, there is a place for you to get involved. This means we are eager to learn. This means we let go of assumptions and preferences, and we fight for understanding in our relationships with God and others. This means we examine our own lives instead of judging someone else's. This means we take personal responsibility for our spiritual life and do the work to know God's word and grow in our faith daily. This means church does not just happen on Sunday. This means we have a role in society, and serving people is how we show God's love. And this means we are here to come alongside those with critical needs in critical locations.

## Questions?

Visit [www.thestory.church/contact](http://www.thestory.church/contact) to share your questions with us. A member of our staff team will get back to you as soon as possible.