

# King's Gate Church Membership

## What We Believe

Jude 1:3 “Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.”

The letter of Jude was written to defend the apostolic faith that had been handed down, against the false teachings that were arising in the churches around 70-80 AD. In it, Jude condemns heretics in no uncertain terms and exhorts his readers to “contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.” He was clearly emphasizing the necessity for the Church to hold on to the pure truth of the Christian faith. This has been true throughout the ages as Satan has sought to pervert sound doctrine and confuse the teachings of the Bible, so as to malign the truth and make obscure the way of salvation. This is as true today as in any other age that has passed before. God has entrusted the Church with His Truth, which is the Word of God.

1Timothy 3:15 “but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.”

The Church is to be the pillar and the support of the Truth contained in the entire Word of God. It is responsible to handle the Word accurately, through preaching, teaching, defending and administering God's Word.

2Timothy 4:1-5, 15. “I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: <sup>2</sup> preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. <sup>3</sup> For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, <sup>4</sup> and will turn away their ears from truth and will turn aside to myths. <sup>5</sup> But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”

While we do not consider ourselves to be ‘the perfect local church’ or claim that our revelation is full and complete in every area, we do believe that sound doctrine is paramount, and that there are doctrines of fundamental Biblical truth regarding salvation, faith, and practice that are complete and will never change in their revelation. That is to say, there is nothing to add and nothing can be taken away from these fundamental truths. At King's Gate Church we are dedicated to upholding these beliefs with the utmost tenacity. The following is a summary of our fundamental beliefs, which form the foundation of our core values and the implementation of our vision in the will of God

## Statement of Faith

We believe most assuredly:

1. The Bible (excluding the Apocrypha) is the inspired Word of God and is the only true, earthly, full revelation of God's truth that exists (2Pet. 1:20; 2Tim. 3:16).
2. That God has revealed Himself as "One God" existing and manifest in three distinct persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19; 2Cor. 13:14; 1John 5:8).
3. In the test and fall of man, his lost state as recorded in the Bible, and in his subsequent depravity and inability to attain righteousness before God outside of Jesus Christ (Gen. 3:1-22; Acts 4:12; Rom. 5:12; 6:23).
4. In the reality and personality of Satan who is a fallen cherub. He was once the covering angel called Lucifer of the very throne of God. Now he chooses to oppose God's will and confuse God's people (Is. 12:12-14; Rev. 12:1-17).
5. In the Lord Jesus Christ as the only Saviour of mankind, conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary. He is very God and very man (Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7; Luke 1:26-35; John 1:18).
6. That Jesus died for our sins, was buried and rose again from the dead on the third day, which is the Gospel stated in the Bible. He also after His resurrection appeared in person to His disciples (Rom. 4:25; 1Cor. 15:1-19).
7. In Jesus Christ's bodily ascension into heaven and He is now seated at the place of all authority at the right hand of the Father. That this same Jesus will literally, bodily come again the second time with and for a victorious Church (Matt 28:18; Col. 3:1; 1Thess. 4:13-18).
8. That the salvation of man was provided through the Cross of Calvary and that through repentance and faith in Christ's atoning work we can be saved (Rom. 5:11; Eph. 2:8-9; Heb. 9:12).
9. That through apostasy, unbelief, and neglect, a person can backslide and fall away from the living God. (Heb. 6:4-6; 2Tim. 4:3-4; 2Pet. 2:20-22).
10. In the necessity of Water Baptism by immersion at or subsequent to a sincere profession of faith in Jesus Christ, as saviour and Lord. This Baptism is a commandment not an option (Matt. 3:13-17; 28:19; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:37-40).

11. In the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as taught clearly in the Bible. It is an experience subsequent to salvation with scriptural evidences, such as speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance (Matt. 3:11; Luke 24:49; Acts 1:5,8; 2:1-4, 38-39; 8:14-17; 10:44-46; Gal.3:14).
12. In the present-day operation of the supernatural Gifts of the Holy Spirit as was manifest in the early Church and taught about extensively by the Apostle Paul. Further to this we believe in the healing power of God as manifest in both the Old and New Testaments, and that the release of God's supernatural power should naturally flow out of Christian believers living a Holy Spirit-filled life (Mark 16:17-20; Acts 4:30; 1Cor. 12:4-11; Rom. Eph. 3:20; 8:11).
13. In living a Spirit-filled life of obedience to God's will, in thought, word, and deed. That is, true Christians will progressively become more Christ-like as they walk with God and grow up to full maturity in the Lord. That spiritual growth and maturity comes directly from the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, worshiping God, prayer, studying and walking in obedience to the Word of God, and actively serving God as part of a local Church. (Eph. 4:1-32; 5:1-21; Acts 2:41-47; 1Cor. 12: 12-27; 2Cor. 6:14-18; 1Pet. 2:1-25; 1John 2:15-17).
14. In the necessity of celebrating the Lord's Table (Communion) for all believers, as instituted and commanded by the Lord Jesus Christ, practiced by the early Church, and taught by the Apostle Paul (Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20; John 6:44-59; 1Cor. 11:23-32).
15. In the bodily Resurrection of the Dead and a Day of judgement when all those who have been born-again through believing on the Lord Jesus Christ will have eternal life, and all those who have not been born-again and believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, shall be separated from God eternally by being cast into hell (Mark 9:43-48; 16:16; 1Cor. 15:1-58; Phil. 3:10-16; 2Thess. 1:9; Rev. 20: 10-15).
16. That the Church of Jesus Christ is the only true work of God in the earth through which He will reveal Himself and redeem mankind, and that the Church is the only vehicle through which He will accomplish His eternal purpose. To this end we believe in the current work of God to restore the Church back to spiritual power, and into God's original purpose to become the Holy Spotless Bride of Christ manifesting the image, truth, power, and glory of God. That the true Church represents God's kingdom on earth, being the place of His rule and authority. (Matt. 3:2; Luke 6:20; 12:32; Acts 3:19-21; Eph. 1:1-23; 2:1-22; 5:27 Col. 1:13; Jam. 2:5).

17. That the work of the Church is to follow Christ, preach the Gospel, worship God, teach the Word, make disciples, live the truth, demonstrate God's power, and bring glory to His name (Ps. 50:23; Matt. 4:20; 16:24; 28:19-20 Mark 16:16-18; John 10:27; 15:8 Acts 1:8; Rom. 12:1-2; 1Cor. 6:20; 2Cor. 5:15; 12:9; Gal. 2:20; John).

18. That the Church is divinely mandated in purpose, prophetic in vision, and apostolic in nature. It will be built and structured by God upon the Biblical foundations and pattern which He has clearly given in the scriptures. Therefore, we believe in the present-day working of the five-fold ministry gifts to the Church in the form of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers (1Cor. 3:9-23; Eph.1:1-22; 2:19-22; 3:1-21; 4:1-16).

19. That the true Church is made up of those who have been born-again through repentance and believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who have been baptized in water, and filled with the Holy Spirit as Jesus demonstrated in His example, and commanded in His teaching (Matt. 3:16-17; Mark 16:15-20; Luke 4:1; 24:49; John 3:1-21; 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; Acts 1:5-8 2:4, 38-39; 10:46-48; 1Pet.1:3).

20. That the Church is the place where Christ is irrevocably proclaimed and seen to be the Living Head of the Church, and where the Father is worshiped in Spirit and Truth, where the presence of God is manifest in power, and the Holy Spirit is allowed to freely move as He wills, where the priesthood of all believers is taught and manifested in the life of the local Church and the individual believer (John 4:20-24; 1Cor. 2:1-16; Gal.5:16-25; Eph.5:23-27; Eph.4:30; 1Thess.5:19; 1John 5:7-8; 1Pet.2:5-10; Rev.1:6; 5:10; 20:6).

## Our Mission & Core Values

### Mission

Mission Statement: Releasing the Kingdom on Earth as it is in Heaven.  
(Psalm 24:7 Lift up your heads, O gates, And be lifted up, O ancient doors, That the King of glory may come in!)

We are called to establish heaven here on earth by embracing the culture of the King.

Kingdom Culture is:

- a culture of grace
- a culture of honour
- a culture of generosity
- a culture of freedom
- a culture of courage

## Core Values

As we have sought God together over the years we have come to hold fast to the following core values.

God's Presence - We pursue God relentlessly so that our lives become a dwelling place for His presence and when people encounter us they encounter Him.

Family - There is room for everyone at the table. God is a good Father and we are His children. All kingdom government is based on family; He places the solitary in families.

Restoration - Salvation brings healing and freedom to all things so that we can reign in life through Jesus Christ. He is returning for a Bride without spot or wrinkle.

Trailblazing - There is always more to explore. We passionately press forward to advance the Kingdom until an awareness of His Glory covers the earth as the waters cover the seas.

Mobilizing - Our mandate is to change the world through acts of supernatural love and generosity in every sphere of society. Every believer is a supernatural minister.

## Our Vision

King's Gate Church is a kingdom culture church that is apostolic in nature. We want to be a place where the presence of God is tangibly felt and where kingdom culture and the superior reality of heaven is seen and realized.

Matthew 6:10 "Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

As an apostolic house, we are called to be a training and resource centre for the Kingdom of God. We are called to equip the Church (both the local and the greater Church) with the resources needed to transform our world.

When Jesus said "Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" we do not believe He was only teaching us to pray in a like manner. He was telling us that it is possible for the Kingdom of God to invade this earth here and now. Jesus also displayed this with the life He lived here on earth.

He imparted this lifestyle to His disciples (the apostles), and they lived lives that

spread the Kingdom of heaven everywhere they went. We have been called to follow this example. We believe the call to carry the wonders of heaven, to heal the sick, cast out demons and the like (signs, wonders, and miracles) did not die with the apostles but continues in The Church today. So we pursue God and invite the Holy Spirit to teach us, and work through us as He did in the apostles. As we embark on this journey we will train and equip others to walk in this same grace.

It is imperative that the vision be kept open and flexible before the Lord as He will expand and alter aspects of the vision as He sees fit. However the foundational values of this church should never be altered, as they are the foundations that this house is built-on and they are the keys to the visions of this house coming to fruition.

## Church Operation & Leadership Structure

1. The Holy Spirit (the presence of God) is paramount and is at the centre of everything we do. He has full rule and reign of all aspects of our church, He is the main theme and we will not change the subject.
2. The local church is an expression of the Kingdom of God in a geographical area, in this case Cochrane, Alberta. It has a specific mandate for that region.
3. We are an autonomous church (non-denominational) with a local governing board. We choose networks and apostolic bodies to join with to create accountability and to provide training. These networks and apostolic bodies are a resource and ministry building tool only and do not govern our local church.
4. The senior leaders are appointed by God and are recognized by the governing board and the church body as having that call upon their lives. They are the head of the local church and the leaders of the governing board.
5. Elders are appointed by God and recognized by the governing board and the church body as having that calling upon their lives.
6. The governing board is made up of the senior leaders, and elders. This board is responsible for the spiritual and practical leadership of the church.
7. The local church exists to equip the saints for the work of the ministry. We do not believe in a sacred/secular divide, but believe the work of ministry is the calling of ALL of the saints, in all arenas of life.

## Role of Leadership

King's Gate Church is a New Testament Theocracy and accepts the Biblical pattern of Church government in all aspects of its operation. Our leaders are appointed, not elected, based on the recognized call of God on their lives, the presence of spiritual gifts

and anointing from God, as well as confirming prophetic words. In terms of Church leadership, there are criteria clearly documented in what the New Testament teaches us concerning the character qualifications of those who are chosen to lead God's people (1Tim.3:1-13; 2Tim.4:1-5; Titus 1:5-16; 2:1-10). We recognize the five-fold ministries of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers as God-given ruling offices in the Body of Christ as a whole.

In the local church the Senior Leader(s) should be one of the five-fold ministries listed above. The Elders might also be of the five-fold gifts and they become the Senior Leaders advisors and counsellors. Together they form the ruling body of the local church in all of its affairs, spiritual and otherwise.

The deacons or deaconesses are those who are appointed to help the Senior Leadership with the administration and ministry to the people. Helps and administrations are other practical areas of ministry. In the Biblical Pattern, a local church body of believers should all work together with each person being a supplying joint according to the will of God. (Eph.4:11-16).

We believe that all leadership should be servant-leadership, modelled after Christ's leadership (Phil 2:5-8), and that each part of the Body is to do nothing out of vain conceit or selfish ambition, but in humility prefer one another above yourself (Phil 2:3-4)

## Accountability

All ministries in the local church, who meet the Biblical criteria should be appointed by and are accountable to the Senior Leaders and Elders, with the Senior Leaders being the overseeing human authority. Although there is a God given established rank within the leadership of any church, a state of mutual accountability should exist first, between the Senior Leaders and Elders and then to the other leaders and the official membership of the church. The Senior Leaders of a church should have relationships that also make them accountable to other five-fold ministries outside of his own church that can be called upon in matters of questionable integrity or moral failure in his role as leader of the church.

Theocratic church government thrives when the Holy Spirit is given freedom to direct the appointment of the leaders of His people, and when the Biblical pattern is properly observed. The Biblical pattern provides adequately for checks, balances, and accountability. It works when each person in a local church is personally submitted, first to God, and then to one another, in the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit. That is why it is essential that all of God's people be totally committed and submitted to Him through the Holy Spirit.

## Purpose of Membership

The purpose of membership at King's Gate Church is to build and grow as family in the Body of Christ. When you choose membership, you are publicly identifying that King's Gate Church is your home church and that you are committed to rooting, growing and building God's Kingdom in and through this local church family. While membership is not a life-long covenant, it is a commitment to unite yourself to a body of believers for as long as God leads. When you become a member, you place yourself under the covering, protection and accountability of a body of believers, and you become part of a covering, protection and accountability for others. You share the gifts and resources God has placed in you, and you get to partake in and benefit from the gifts and resources God has placed in others. In doing so, you experience supernatural blessing and provision—the riches of Christ's glorious inheritance in the saints. We realize that our role in the Body of Christ to both give and receive is indispensable. (See Acts 2:42-47, Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12). What we have empirically seen over the years is that those who choose membership experience immediate spiritual protection, emotional and physical support and security, as well as accelerated spiritual growth. Choosing membership is like planting yourself in a greenhouse where you find yourself in a protected atmosphere with optimal conditions to grow and thrive. It doesn't mean life is perfect, but it means you have the immediate belonging and protection of family, and immediate access to the grace of other members which cover and strengthen your own weaknesses. In exchange, your own strengths will flow easily into the Body and provide immediate benefit for others.

## Qualifications for Membership

- I have accepted Jesus Christ as my Personal Saviour according to John 3:3, 16-18 and Romans 10:9-10;
- I have been baptized in water by immersion as credible profession of my faith in Jesus;
- I am continually seeking to be filled by The Holy Spirit
- I am 18 years of age or older
- I have regularly attended King's Gate Church for a minimum of six months.
- I agree to support King's Gate Church statement of faith



## Role of Members

As a member of King's Gate Church and as saints you will need to understand that you have three main areas of ministry.

1. Ministry to the Lord - This refers to the activities that are primarily directed to the Lord.
2. Ministry to the Body - This refers to our activities that are directed specifically to the needs of believers, first to our own church, and then to the wider Body of Christ.
3. Ministry to the Lost - This refers to our outreach activities in spreading the gospel at home and abroad.

A church cannot function without the people of God getting involved in the local church. As a saint and a member of this house you will have a responsibility in carrying out and becoming involved with the practical aspects the local church and help create a church with a passion to see the Kingdom of God manifest in our city, region, province, and nation.

As a member, you have a personal and corporate responsibility to:

- Know and follow Jesus intimately through prayer, worship, reading of Word of God (the Bible) and fellowship with the saints
- Invite the daily leadership of the Holy Spirit in your life
- Be a willing and cheerful giver of your time, talents and gifts for the furtherance of the Kingdom and the building up of the body of Christ
- Be a willing cheerful giver of your resources and finances (tithes and offerings, which belong to the Lord)
- Maintain unity in the spirit with other believers
- Be a regular attender of King's Gate Church
- By God's grace through the power of the Holy Spirit, to walk in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:13-16; 1 Peter 4:1-3). Believers should strive to put certain attitudes and actions to death while stirring and stimulating love and good deeds through the Spirit.
- Submit to the authority of the Scriptures as the final arbiter on all issues (Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21)
- Attend the church's Annual General Meeting and other important membership meetings as may arise.

## Christian Rites

### **Communion**

In obedience to Jesus' command, we will regularly partake of the Lord's Table to remember His death until He comes (Matthew 26:17-30; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22: 7-22; 1Corinthians 11:17-34).

### **Water Baptism**

To keep the commandment and follow the example of the Lord Jesus Christ, we will administer water baptism by full immersion to all those who make a profession of faith in Jesus Christ (Matthew 3:1-11; 28:19; Mark 16:6; Acts 2:38).

### **Christian Marriage**

Christian Marriage is God's institution and is intended for the happiness and welfare of mankind. It is the closest and dearest relationship into which human beings can enter and is founded upon mutual respect and affection. Marriage is also a human example of Christ's relationship with His Church. Therefore, a union embodying such ideals should not be entered into lightly or unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, soberly, and in the fear of the Lord. We advocate Marriage as the only legitimate means of a man and woman cohabiting together in an intimate sexual relationship.

The Bible teaches clearly that original intent for marriage is between one man and one woman, and no legitimacy is given to same gender unions. In fact, the scriptures refer to such practices as sinful. Consequently, in honour of God and the sanctity of His purpose for mankind, King's Gate Church does not recognize or perform same gender marriage. Due to the volatile nature of refusing marriage services to same sex couples and to protect our pastors, King's Gate Church will now only offer to perform marriage services for those who are members and for a member's immediate family. Pastors do retain the right to offer their services outside of this framework if they wish, but King's Gate Church will not volunteer or require their Pastors to do so. All Pastors have the freedom to refuse to perform marriage services as they see fit, even if the request comes from a member. No Pastor at King's Gate Church is permitted to perform a same sex marriage or any other marriage that does not meet the Biblical definition of marriage stated above.

### **Baby Dedication**

Within the Christian Church and in society in general, there is a wide margin in interpretation of the meaning and practice of infant dedication. As a rite it is without specific scriptural commandment, but it is most definitely supported by scriptural example. It is certain that one cannot insist that parents were actually dedicating their children when they brought them to Jesus to be blessed by Him. However, it does show clearly that parents recognized God as their source for all things and there was a benefit in their children receiving an impartation of divine life and God's approval. It also shows that parents recognized the supremacy of God as the giver of life, giver

of blessing and director of our destiny. The Bible also illustrates clearly the claim of God on the children of the Israelites, and in particular the dedication of the firstborn. For instance, we see it in the record of Hannah with her son Samuel and specifically in the presentation of Jesus in the temple (1Sam.1:1-28; Luke 2:21-24). These and other scriptural examples serve to show us the importance of bringing our children up in the ways of the Lord. Perhaps the most important scripture that we have that encourages us to bring our children to God is in the book of Psalms. Psalm 127:3 says, "Behold, children are a gift of the Lord; the fruit of the womb is a reward." In Psalm 139, we find the most pointed and encouraging teaching on God as the author and director of life. The Psalm speaks clearly of God knowing us even before we were born, and that it was by His hand that we were each secretly formed in the womb of our mother', and how all the days of our lives are appointed by God (Psalm 139:1-24). If children are a gift from God, then they ultimately belong to God. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that returning thanks to Him for His gift of children is not only appropriate, but also necessary, and we need to invite God to give leadership and guidance to our children as they go through life. To dedicate them back to God is an acknowledgment of a thankful heart and illustrates our dependence upon Him for help raising our children in His ways. It is an appropriately humble act of worship and honor to our Lord and King. While this practice is not mandatory in our church, at KGC we encourage the practice of child dedication and offer a place for parents to arrange to bring their children to God for formal dedication and prayer during a regular church Service.

### **Prayer For The Sick**

The ministry of Jesus is filled with examples of Him healing the sick. According to His commandment and the example of scripture, we will offer prayer with the laying on of hands for healing to all who seek it (Mark 16:18; Luke 4:18-19; James 5:13-16).

### **Deliverance / Exorcism**

Because of Satan (the devil), evil exists in many forms. He schemes to thwart the purposes of God by means of spiritual control and manipulation through his demons. We believe that God has given the Church authority and power in Jesus' name, to effectively deal with these spiritual forces of darkness that are working against God's plan. In obedience to the commandment and example of Jesus in the "Great Commission," and in following the example and teachings of the Apostles, we offer prayer for spiritual healing and deliverance from all forms of demonic activity, be it the oppression or possession of people, or supernatural disturbances to property (Luke 4:18-19; 10:19; Matthew 10:8; Mark 16:15-18; Ephesians 6:10-18; Revelation 12:1-17).

### **Funerals**

No demand upon a Pastor and Congregation is as urgent as the call of sorrow in the hour of bereavement and death. Never do people need to lean so heavily upon their

Pastor and fellow Christians to bring them love and comfort as they do at this time. In such matters, King's Gate Church does not discriminate between believers and non-believers in times of bereavement, and we will provide prayer, counsel, and funeral services to all people who seek our help in laying a loved one to rest. At no time are people in more need and more ready to receive God's grace and mercy, than at times when a loved one passes away. We consider that these times present us with an open door for a tasteful presentation of the Gospel, and it offers an opportunity to lead people into a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. However we will not provide services where people desire to include rituals and practices of other religions. We only offer services and perform funeral rites that are totally Christian. In addition, we will not participate in any ecumenical service that is not totally Christian in its content and presentation. In performing the rite of Christian Burial, we may choose at our discretion, not to permit the use of inappropriate or questionable secular music or customs in any services that we conduct. The question of burial or cremation: It is clear that the Biblical example and practice is the burial of a body, but we do not present a bias in this area. We believe that "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord" (Rom. 14:8; 2 Cor.5:6-9). We feel that it is a matter of personal conscience and choice of the deceased and the bereaved family.

## Stances On Common Issues

We believe that all people are created in the image and likeness of God. We believe God is the Creator and King of the universe and we were made for relationship with Him as His children. He is the Creator, we are the creation; we are subject to God and He is our Ruler, our King, our Saviour and all authority on earth and heaven is derived from God. We believe God created humanity purposefully to have dominion over the earth in relationship with Him as our Father. We believe that God created us male and female and ordained marriage between man and women as a covenant to become one flesh. As such, we hold to fundamental beliefs that are unshaken regardless of the views and opinions of the society in which we live. We believe in the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. We believe in the sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that sexual intimacy was designed by God to form part of the marriage covenant which takes a man and a woman from being two individuals and makes them one flesh. In our current society, there is increasing debate on issue of sexuality, gender and marriage. While we will endeavour to always treat all people with the love and kindness, we hold to the basic and simple truths expressed in the Bible. We will strive to live in harmony with our neighbours and to love them as we love ourselves, but we will not stray from God's design or the teaching of God's word in order to satisfy changing values in our society.