

Relevant Community Church What We Believe

The Bible

We believe that the Bible, all sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is God's written message to the world. The Old and New Testaments are inerrant as originally given, and were inspired by God to be written down by man. They are a complete revelation for the salvation of mankind. The Bible is the basis and gauge for faith and living. See 2Timothy 3:16-17.

<u>God</u>

We believe there is one God who is infinitely perfect, has always existed, and will exist eternally, as three distinct persons: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The three persons of the Trinity are each equally God. I believe God created the universe out of nothing and sustains its operation. See Matthew 28:16-20 and Romans 1:20.

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is both true God and true man. Jesus is the Son of God, the second person of the Trinity. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He was a sinless man, who died upon the cross, paying the just penalty for the sins of humanity. He became for us a substitutionary sacrifice for all who believe in Him and we are justified on the basis of His shed blood. Jesus died on the cross and was buried; on the third day, His crucified body was raised from the dead in a glorified way. He now sits at the right hand of God the Father as our interceding High Priest. He will come again to establish His kingdom and to judge all mankind.

See Mark 8:31-38, John 14:6, Romans 3:23-8:3, and Hebrews 2:14-18.

Mankind

Man was created in the likeness of God. Adam fell through disobedience to God; ever since, people have been born with a sin nature, and are separated from God. Mankind can only be saved from God's punishment for sin, eternal life in hell, through belief in Jesus Christ and His atoning work of the cross for us. See John 3:16-18.

Sin and Salvation

All mankind has sinned and because of this, belief in Jesus is the only way of salvation from eternal life in hell apart from God. Eternal life with God cannot be earned; it is only received as a gift through faith in Jesus Christ. Salvation is offered for anyone who repents of their sin, believes in Jesus and what He did, and asks Jesus into their life. Doing this you become a child of God and receive the power of the Holy Spirit. See Romans 5:8 and John 3:16-18.

Holy Spirit

It is God's will that each of His adopted children be filled with the Holy Spirit and become holy. We need to separate ourselves from sin and worldly thinking, dedicating our lives to Gods will. The Holy Spirit will counsel us to discover God's will for our lives. The Holy Spirit gives each believer Spiritual Gifts to be used for the strengthening of the church. See 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8, Matthew 6:33, Galations 5:16-26, and 1 Peter 4:7-11

Church

We believe that all Christians make up the Church, in which Jesus is the head. The purpose of the local church is to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus who go out and make disciples of Jesus. It is a body of believers who are joined together for the following reasons: the worship of God, edification through the Word of God, prayer, fellowship, evangelism, baptism, and the sharing of the Lord's Supper. See Hebrews 10:1, Acts 20:28-31 and 1 Corinthians 14:12.

Baptism

Baptism is a sign of genuine repentance and submission to God's will for your life. It should be done by total immersion in water, which was Jesus' example. Believers should be baptized because it is what Jesus did and encouraged His followers to do also. It is a statement about you and your intentions to become more mature in your faith. See Matthew 3:1-17, 28:16-20 and Acts1:1-8.

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is symbolic of Christ Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. The bread symbolizes the broken body of Christ, and the juice symbolizes the innocent blood of Jesus that was shed. I believe that communion should be taken monthly and according to Scripture. See Luke 22:14-20

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Second Coming

The second coming of Jesus Christ is imminent and will be visible. Scripture reveals a premillenial second coming of Jesus for His children in Revelation 20. See Acts 1:7-8

Pastor Brant's Testimony and Call to Ministry

I grew up in a good home with two loving parents who worked very hard to provide for a family of five. I accepted Jesus into my heart at age eight with my dad and was baptized at age twelve. My baptism was a moment in time that I felt called to become a leader for Christianity. I was passionate about helping others to realize faith in God was exciting and offered a freedom from guilt that was unparralled. As I grew in maturity of my faith, I began to realize the gifting of the Holy Spirit in me and the passion I had for teaching others to understand their faith is relevant to every season of this life.

I graduated form anchor bay High school in 1990 and William Tyndale College in 1996. This was the longest six years of my life as I wrestled with God over the plan for my life. In 1993 I finally resolved to accept the calling into youth ministry and the confirmation was in that God would bless me in school and thus I began to be faithful in whatever he wanted me to do. Lets be clear that Greek II was a divinely inspired classes. Not sure exactly how I passed my poetry class either now that I think about it. It was in these years of classes that I took on Internships that helped me discover exactly what my calling was, I embraced this calling and began to wholeheartedly depend on God for everything. Many times my life did not make sense to me and I was sure that God had the wrong guy. Nevertheless it was by his grace and mercy that I discovered my purpose in those life altering decisions of being a young adult.

My wonderful wife Julie and I were married in June of 1996 and we began our first full time ministry in Pennsylvania. The relationships that we encountered there were truly amazing to us. Never before had we been so utterly dependant on church people and been blessed as a result of our blind faith to leave so much behind. The lessons we learned had a huge impact on us and to this day we reflect upon that time with great enthusiasm. I have learned that over the years God has always been challenging me to improve what I can and accept the rest as His divine wisdom. In 2006 we were blessed with adopting our first son Austin, he is an amazing child that looks so much like me and has the personality of Julie. In 2011 We adopted our second son Jack and incredibly he is so much like me but has Julies hereitage and looks like so much of her Polish family. We've concluded that no matter what our plans are God has the best plan and by faith we will continue to submit to Him and serve Him with all our heart, soul, and mind. Thats what faith is, trusting God

when you don't feel like it, its at those times many fail but the faithful will find strength in a God who is a God who loves and takes care of those who put their faith in Him. He still does it better than we ever could imagine.

My calling is to go out and make disciples, it's a calling that Jesus declared for his disciples so that they would expierence the incredible adventure of a life and faith in God. My desire is to help individuals draw closer to God and each by creating healty relationships and environments where those relationships can take root. My relationship with God is the most important thing in my life. I wholeheartedly believe I have been called to plant a church. My family is a big part of this calling, and fully supports my desire to plant Relevant Church and is committed to doing whatever it takes to make Relevant Church successful.

My teaching is founded on the Bible; All Scripture is God breathed and is useful, (Relevant) for teaching training and righousness. 2 Tim 3:16 It is the authority by which I preach God's truth. I teach with creativity and wisdom in an approachable way so that Gods Word will have an impact on everyone who walks through our doors. My passion in ministry is to share God's truth with as many individuals as possible is a way that inspires and encourages them to come to a growing knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Relevant Church

September of 2011 I sensed a calling from the Holy Spirit to become a Senior Pastor and to plant a church. I was not sure of this calling and began to ask the Lord to be more specific and help me to have the faith to see what it was He was doing. After laying out a fleece I began taking classes at Liberty University to pursue my Masters degree in Religious Leadership, once again trusting that the Lord would help me to know each step of the way. In January of 2013 I sensed God opening a door to me and He reminded me of those 3 days Jonah spent in the whale only to end up right where God wanted. The message for me was one of faithfulllness again to serve Him. It was simply a message to take the next step of planting a Church where we live. That's where I am today, taking the next steps of faith in serving God on a long journey. I am so excited to be talking to individuals that believe in me and my calling, I cannot tell you how wonderful it is today to see that God has opened incredible doors for us as we have taken our first steps. Even today as we are excited about the preview services and creating a launch team of individuals who want to be a part of making disciples for Jesus, and making an impact on those who don't yet understand what faith is. Living in relationship with God and others provides us the opportunity to celebrate the highs of life and mourn the valley of life together. These relationships are a beautiful thing when we share common ground in Jesus. Today I am excited to tell you all about the plans I believe God has for Relevant Church, but more importantly I want you to receive this invitation to be a part of this exciting journey together with us. Please add these dates to your calendar and consider how you might be a part of what God is doing in this area. Relevant Church; an exciting and inspiring place where Gods Word and a relevant Church come together.