

We believe in God, the Eternal Father,
and in His Son, Jesus Christ, and in
the Holy Ghost.

What this means:

We believe in three separate beings who work together. Heavenly Father has a body and so does Jesus Christ! The Holy Ghost is a spirit. This way, He can be the messenger for Heavenly Father and help us feel His love.

We believe that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression.

What this means:

We all have the freedom to choose. God will judge us for our own choices—not anyone else's. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve chose to eat the fruit God told them not to eat. Because of this, they had to leave the garden. God gave them a Savior to atone for them. Because of Jesus Christ, we can all repent.

We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.

What this means:

Jesus Christ died for us because He loves us. We believe that His Atonement allows all of us to live with Him and Heavenly Father again as we follow Their commandments.

We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost.

What this means:

We believe that these four truths were given to us by Heavenly Father to bless us: 1) having faith in Jesus Christ, 2) repenting for wrong choices, 3) being baptized, and 4) being confirmed as a member of the Church and receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost.

We believe that a man must be called of God, by prophecy, and by the laying on of hands by those who are in authority, to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.

What this means:

We believe our Church leaders are chosen by God and called with His authority. Under God's direction, righteous priesthood holders can be asked to give blessings, baptize and confirm people, bless and pass the sacrament, and help with other parts of God's work.

We believe in the same organization that existed in the Primitive Church, namely, apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, evangelists, and so forth.

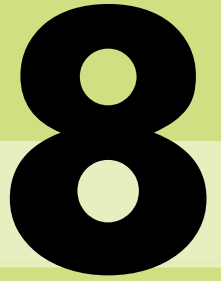
What this means:

When Jesus Christ lived on the earth, He organized His Church. He called apostles, prophets, teachers, missionaries, and others. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is organized now in the same way as it was back then!

We believe in the gift of tongues, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of tongues, and so forth.

What this means:

Spiritual gifts are blessings given from Heavenly Father through the Holy Ghost. Everyone has at least one spiritual gift. Some spiritual gifts are speaking or knowing languages, having faith in Jesus Christ, and helping heal people who are sick.



ARTICLES OF FAITH

We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.

What this means:

When the Bible was translated, some ideas were lost, confused, or moved around. We believe in the parts of the Bible that were translated how Heavenly Father wanted. We believe that both the Bible and the Book of Mormon teach us truths from Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.

We believe all that God has revealed, all that He does now reveal, and we believe that He will yet reveal many great and important things pertaining to the Kingdom of God.

What this means:

Because Heavenly Father loves His children, He has always sent messages for them through His prophets. We believe that He still sends His words through the prophet to lead, guide, and protect us. We can also receive personal messages from Heavenly Father through the Holy Ghost.

We believe in the literal gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the Ten Tribes; that Zion (the New Jerusalem) will be built upon the American continent; that Christ will reign personally upon the earth; and, that the earth will be renewed and receive its paradisiacal glory.

What this means:

The prophet Jacob had twelve sons. Their families are called the twelve tribes of Israel. Over time, these tribes were scattered all over the world. We help gather others back to Jesus Christ's Church through missionary and temple work. When all the tribes are gathered and the Savior comes again, He will be our King. Those who love God will live together peacefully, and the earth will be like a paradise.

We claim the privilege of worshiping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where, or what they may.

What this means:

We believe that we are allowed to worship Heavenly Father how we feel is right. We also respect others who believe differently than we do. This is called religious freedom.

We believe in being subject to kings, presidents, rulers, and magistrates, in obeying, honoring, and sustaining the law.

What this means:

We believe it's important to follow the laws and leaders of the country you live in. It's important to be a good citizen and help others in your community.

We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men; indeed, we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul—We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things.

What this means:

We believe that it's important to live like Jesus Christ did. We can do this when we are honest, pure, and kind. Paul, one of the early Apostles, said that we should believe and hope in Jesus Christ. We should fill our lives with good things that help us follow Him.