



HIGH SCHOOL



GOD

- Because God is holy, He is altogether separate from and infinitely above people who are sinful, and He deserves our reverence and obedience.
- God is Creator, all creation is a result of His work, and He created people in His image and as His crowning achievement to enjoy a relationship with Him and reflect His glory.
- God is omnipresent (all places at all times), omniscient (all-knowing), and omnipotent (all-powerful), and exercises sovereignty over all creation.
- God communicates to us through His Word and hears and answers when we pray, and our spiritual maturity depends on these spiritual disciplines.
- God relates to His people according to His covenant promises, and even though we are not always faithful to Him, God keeps His promises and always has and always will be faithful to us.
- God is loving and righteous, grieves the impact of sin on the world, and will one day make right all that sin has damaged.
- God is worthy of our worship, and to misplace attention or affections to worldly things which are rightly owed to God is idolatry.
- God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) is eternal, and although He is not bound by time, He chooses to operate in it in order to relate to us.
- There is one eternal God who reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and each person of the Trinity has distinct personal attributes.

BEING: All people are created in God's image to reflect Him and live in relationship with Him. Sin damaged that image and brought separation, but Christians are new creations with the distinct privilege of enjoying restored relationships with God and reflecting His character to the world in a special way.

DOING: Because we are created to reflect God and live in relationship with Him, we should continually pursue God in His Word and through prayer, live in continual fellowship within the church, and evangelize those who do not know Him.

APOLOGETIC: Many today believe there are many gods and many ways to heaven, and that we are free to define God according to our personal perspectives. However, Scripture teaches there is one God with only one way to heaven through trust in His only Son, Jesus. God Himself defines who He is and not people.



JESUS

- Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, which means He did not inherit the sinful nature passed down from Adam, which made Him fit to be our Savior.
- From the beginning, God planned that Jesus would save people from their sins, and it was necessary that He would be crucified and raised.
- Jesus is fully God and fully man, and despite being tempted while on earth, remained altogether free from sin.
- Jesus lived for the glory of the Father and taught that we should do the same through lives of worship, service, and sacrifice.

- Because no sin can enter God's presence and because Jesus is holy, He is the only way people can connect with God.
- Jesus, because He is God, had the power to perform miracles, and He did so as a sign of His divine nature and to help people overcome their lack of faith.
- Jesus sits at God's right hand and continually intercedes for believers as our advocate, mediator, and High Priest. Jesus will one day return to exercise His reign over creation, and He will make all things new.

BEING: Because Jesus took our sin and, in its place, gave us His righteousness, though we were once separated from God, we are now accepted into God's presence.

DOING: Because Christianity necessarily involves following Christ, we should continually live in obedience to His commands as an expression of our faith in and love for Him.

APOLOGETIC: Whereas many claim that Jesus was a good man or a great teacher, the truth is that Jesus is God.



HOLY SPIRIT

- God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) is eternal, and although He is not bound by time, He chooses to operate in it in order to relate to us.
- Each person who comes to faith in Christ receives the Holy Spirit and is endowed with a spiritual gift to be used to serve the church.
- Jesus promised that God would send the Holy Spirit, and the Spirit has come to convict, teach, comfort, lead, strengthen, and seal us, as well as to produce fruit within and through us.

- The Holy Spirit intercedes before the Father on our behalf when we do not know how or what to pray.
- The Holy Spirit inspired and guided people to write the Bible and used the personalities and voices of men to communicate the very words of God.

BEING: As members of God's family, we are filled with the Holy Spirit and have received from Him gifts to be used in serving the church. Exercising these gifts is a privilege and responsibility, and God works through us to impact others.

DOING: Because the Holy Spirit resides in the lives of all believers and has given us all a spiritual gift, we should work to discern that gift and then exercise it in building up the church.

APOLOGETIC: Whereas many see the Holy Spirit as an energy or force, the truth is the Holy Spirit is a person, co-equal with the Father and the Son within the Trinity, and is Himself God.



BIBLE

- The Bible is internally consistent, God's Truth, without error, totally trustworthy, and will last forever.
- The Bible is the story of God's work to redeem fallen creation through the saving work of Jesus, who will one day make all things new.
- The Bible consists of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments and is the only inspired written Word of God.
- Through the Bible, we know God Himself, and we know how He expects us to live in order to follow Christ and experience His blessing.

BEING: As God's children, we are called to be like Jesus. The Bible reveals who Jesus is, and we grow to be more like Him as we understand and apply the truths found in the Scriptures.

DOING: Because we are transformed by the Bible, we should devote ourselves to regularly

studying and applying the truths of Scripture.

APOLOGETIC: Many claim there are errors in Scripture or that the Bible contradicts itself in places. However, all Scripture is the Word of God, is without error, is trustworthy, and is transformative.



SALVATION

- Before the beginning of time, God's plan for salvation centered on Jesus' death and resurrection, which make salvation possible.
- No amount of good works can save a person, and Jesus' paying the penalty for our sin is the only way to be reconciled to God.
- Because of rebellion against God, all people are cut off from a relationship with Him and deserve eternal death and hell, which is the punishment for sin.
- God's salvation is eternal, and once we are adopted into God's family, nothing can separate us from Him.
- We can be confident in our salvation when we, as a matter of desire, live in obedience to God and in ways that reflect Jesus.

BEING: Because salvation is a gift from God and has been secured by the sacrifice of Christ, we become children of God forever when we surrender to Him in faith and turn away from sin.

DOING: Though we cannot work to earn salvation, true faith is evidenced in how we live. Therefore, we should seek to know and do all that God commands.

APOLOGETIC: Many people believe we will go to heaven as a matter of works—because they try to be good people, because they pray, or because they simply believe God exists. However, true salvation cannot be earned and comes only by faith in Jesus.



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CREATION

- God is Creator, and all creation is a result of His work and exists to glorify Him.
- Creation testifies as to the existence of God, and because His power and nature are understood through what He has made, people are without excuse for their disbelief and disobedience.
- God's creation functions in an orderly way and serves His purposes as He exercises sovereign rule over it all.
- People are God's most loved creation and have been given responsibility for overseeing His creation. As we steward it for His purposes, we reflect God's character and authority.

BEING: God created a universe, which was whole and good, but humanity's sin brought brokenness, pain, and relational separation between God and people. However, those who are part of God's family are new creations in Christ and will dwell with God in the new heavens and earth.

DOING: As those whom God has entrusted with the responsibility of overseeing His creation, we should steward well all the things God gives us in a way that honors Him and points others to Jesus.

APOLOGETIC: God created the world; therefore, it belongs to Him. Upon placing people in the garden, He called us to rule over the world as an expression of His authority. Because we have the responsibility of caring for the world and all its resources, we must steward it well as God would.



CHURCH

- The church is a community of believers who are called to meet together regularly to study Scripture, pray, worship, serve and encourage one another, and proclaim the gospel to the world.
- The church is not a place or a building but is made up of the people who belong to the family of God, and whereas under the Old Covenant, God dwelled in the temple or the tabernacle, today God dwells in His people and works through them to advance His kingdom.
- The church is called to train and equip its members for works of ministry, including giving their time, resources, and talents to serve those within the church and reach those outside the church.
- The ordinances of the church are the Lord's Supper, which represents the body and blood of Jesus as the payment of our sin, and baptism, which represents our sharing in Jesus' burial and resurrection.

BEING: When we are brought into God's family by faith, we become part of a family who is connected for the sake of loving, supporting, correcting, and encouraging one another.

DOING: Because we are part of a family, God's church, we should prioritize spending time together, and we should sacrificially serve one another.

APOLOGETIC: Many today believe we can have a relationship with God without belonging to a church. Whereas going to church is not what saves us, we belong to a church not only to worship corporately and to be fed but also to serve the needs of others. When we fail to engage with our church family, we are not following Christ in serving sacrificially.



“We can grow in Christlikeness by acting intentionally to pursue Christ and as God works in our lives.”



PEOPLE

- All people are created in God’s image as male and female, are infinitely valuable, and our lives are gifts from God.
- People are created as moral beings and are responsible for their choices and the consequences of their choices, including the ways we treat others.
- We can grow in Christlikeness by acting intentionally to pursue Christ and as God works in our lives.
- God has a purpose for every person, and we can know His plans by understanding and applying the truth of Scripture.
- God loves all people, regardless of ethnicity or status, desires that we would all turn to Him for salvation, and demonstrated His love by sending Jesus to bear the penalty for our sin on the cross.
- Because of Jesus, people can live with joy regardless of circumstances, as joy is rooted in an eternal perspective and not in earthly circumstances.
- Our response to God’s love is to remain pure in all aspects of life—with our bodies, thoughts, attitudes, actions, and speech—and He empowers us to obey His commands as we live by the Spirit.
- All people have sinned, and have been separated from God, but we can be restored to a relationship with Him when we trust in Jesus and turn from our sin.

BEING: Because God created us, we belong to Him, and He has the right to direct our lives for His purposes.

DOING: In order to fulfill God’s purposes in our lives, namely reflecting His glory and character, we must know Him personally. Therefore, we should devote ourselves wholeheartedly to living in relationship with Him.

APOLOGETIC: Many today believe that, until a baby is born, he is not a living person. However, Scripture teaches that, from the time we are conceived, all people are living spiritual beings with great worth.



FAMILY

- Families are a part of God’s plan for filling the earth with His image-bearers and are responsible for providing for the spiritual, physical, mental, social, and emotional needs of family members.
- God’s plan for the family involves one man and one woman, who have different but complementary roles, committing to one another in a lifelong covenant relationship as a reflection of God’s love for His people.
- God calls children to honor their parents throughout their lives as a reflection of honor and love for Him. Further, we are to demonstrate love toward all members of our families, including siblings, extended family, and those who God brings into our families as a result of fostering, adoption, or remarriage.
- When families experience brokenness, such as conflict, abuse, or divorce, God desires to bring healing and unity and to use the broader family of God to minister to hurting families during difficult times.

BEING: Because we were meant to live in relationship, God’s design is that we would experience love, acceptance, support, and guidance through an earthly family. Further, God’s children are part of a spiritual family, the church, where we experience these, and we find all of these perfectly in God, our Father.

DOING: We are called to honor God in the ways we treat our family. Therefore, we should work to intentionally show family members love and forgiveness.

APOLOGETIC: Many people today believe the definition of marriage is subjective and flexible, and that as long as people “love” each other, they have the right to be “married.” However, the Bible clearly defines marriage as a covenant relationship between one man and one woman for life.



COMMUNITY AND WORLD

- God values all people—born and unborn, young and old, male and female, all ethnicities, those of opposing faiths—and calls Christians to live on mission for the sake of reaching the lost across the street and around the world through prayer, giving resources, acting with love, and sharing the gospel.
- God continues to work in the world, and as we join Him in His work, He uses people to accomplish His eternal purposes.
- We demonstrate honor for God when we respect the earthly authorities God has placed in our lives, including parents, pastors, teachers, coaches, police, and government.

BEING: As God’s people, we are ambassadors called to reach the world with the gospel.

DOING: As God’s representatives, we should devote our lives to loving all people well and reaching them with the gospel that they could be reconciled to God.

APOLOGETIC: Many people today believe the universe exists as the result of some great cosmic accident and that people evolved from simpler life forms. However, the Bible teaches that our loving Father created us to live in relationship with Him and to reflect His glory to others. Therefore, every person possesses inherent dignity and worth.