**"IN ESSENTIALS UNITY, IN ALL THINGS CHARITY.”**

TableTopUSA members agree that the following are the essentials of the Christian Faith, apart from believe in these, one cannot be a Christian. Belief in anything beyond these essentials is categorized below as a non-essential belief, meaning that we may still call you a brother or sister in Christ, but we will not argue with you because they are not required for salvation.

**ESSENTIALS**

1. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
**Matthew 28:19; John 10:30; Ephesians 4:4-6.**

2. We believe in the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood on the cross, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
**Matthew 1:23; John 1:1-4 and 1:29; Acts 1:11 and 2:22-24; Romans 8:34; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:1-4 and 4:15.**

3. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God revealing the love of God to the world.
**1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; John 3:16.**

4. We believe that all men everywhere are lost and face the judgment of God, that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation, and that for the salvation of lost and sinful man, repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ results in regeneration by the Holy Spirit. Furthermore, we believe that God will reward the righteous with eternal life in heaven, and that He will banish the unrighteous to everlasting punishment in hell.
**Luke 24:46-47; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Romans 3:23; 2 Corinthians 5:10-11; Ephesians 1:7 and 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7.**

5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, whose indwelling enables the Christian to live a godly life.
**John 3:5-8; Acts 1:8 and 4:31; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Galatians 5:16-18; Ephesians 6:12; Colossians 2:6-10.**

6. We must be united in the essential of the **The Gospel Message**“that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures” (1 Cor 15:3-4) and by believing, you may have life in his name (John 20:31).

7. We must be united that salvation is by Faith Alone, not by works. **The Gospel is given freely** as evidence of God’s Grace– you cannot earn it and you do not deserve it. Baptism is something you do after you are saved but it is not required for salvation (the thief on the cross was not baptized).

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9

**In All Things – Charity**

Regardless of your beliefs on the non-essential issues, we consider you a brother or sister in Christ if you agree with us on the Essential beliefs list above.

Let us be moved to Love one Another. "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” (John 13:34)

Let us avoid arguing about non-essential issues, taking care to observe Paul’s instruction to Timothy:
“Don’t have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.” 2 Tim 2:23-24