

Casa de Alabanza

Beliefs and Core Values

Bobby Cruz Jr., Senior Pastor

I. Mission

Leading people in a growing relationship with Jesus Christ

II. Vision

Create a relationally driven organization to help people with their growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

III. What We Believe: Our Statement of Faith

1. The Bible

We believe the Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 [NVI/NLT]; Hebrews 4:12 [RVR95/NIV]; 2 Peter 1:20-21 [NVI /NIV]; 1 Thessalonians 2:13 [NVI /NIV]

2. The Triune God

We believe there is only one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, equal in power and glory. The triune God created all, upholds all, and governs all. Deuteronomy 6:4 [NVI /NLT]; Isaiah 43:10,11 [NVI /NLT]; Matthew 28:19 [NVI/NIV]; Colossians 2:9 [NVI/NIV]; Colossians 1:16-17 [RVR95/NIV]

3. Jesus Christ

We believe as God's son, Jesus Christ was both human and divine. He is one and the same as God. We believe Jesus Christ:

- (1) Is God's only begotten Son
- (2) Was Conceived by the Holy Spirit.
- (3) In His virgin birth
- (4) In His sinless life
- (5) In His Miracles
- (6) In His teachings;
- (7) In His atoning death;

- (8) In His bodily resurrection;
- (9) In His ascension into heaven;
- (10) In His intercession for believers;
- (11) In His personal, visible return to earth

4. The Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit is the Promised by the Father and declared by Jesus Christ:

(1) The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and impending judgment as well as seals, sanctifies, and empowers the believer of Jesus Christ at the point of regeneration. John 16: 7-11 [NVI/NIV]; Eph 1:13-14 [DHH/NIV]; 2 Cor 1:21-22 [NVI/NIV]; 1 Pet 1:2 [NVI/NIV]; 2 Tim 1:7 [DHH/NIV].

(2) The Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Jesus Christ and He is an abiding Helper, Teacher, and Guide. Rom 8:9 [DHH/NIV]; 1 Cor 3:16 [NVI/NIV]; 2 Tim 1:14 [NVI/NLT]; Rom 8:26 [NVI/NIV]; Eph 2:22 [NVI/NLT]; Gal 5:16 [NVI/NLT]

(3) The Holy Spirit baptizes the seeking believer with power for service through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, either at the time of or subsequent to regeneration, which is a separate work from the seal of the Holy Spirit for salvation. Acts 1:8a [NVI/NIV]; 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 [NVI/NIV]

(4) The Holy Spirit continuously fills the seeking believer; this infilling is reflected in the life of the believer through the fruit of the Spirit. Eph 5:18 [NVI/NLT]; Rom 8:16 [NVI/NLT]

5. Salvation through Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ is the way to Salvation. Mankind is restored from its sinful nature by accepting the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross. Salvation is by faith; those who place their trust and faith in Jesus Christ as Personal Savior receive the gift of salvation and will go to Heaven. Salvation cannot be purchased or earned by good deeds; it's a step of faith and belief in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. John 14:6 [NVI/NIV]; Rom 3:23 [RVR95/NLT]; Rom 5:8 [DHH/NLT]; Eph 2:8-9 [DHH/NLT]

6. New Life in Christ

We believe in having a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ came to give us abundant life, to restore our relationship with the Father by forgiving our sins and making us a new person in Him. As we pursue a growing relationship with Jesus Christ we engage in the life long process of renewing our minds. Through prayer, reading the Bible and fellowship with other believers we become more Christ like. Col 3:9-10, 16 [DHH/NLT]; Rom 12:2 [DHH/NCV]; Acts 2:42 [NVI/NIV]

7. The Mission of the Church as the Body of Christ

The Church is the representation of the body of Jesus Christ of which Christ is the head and all believers are members. The mission of the Church is to impact our world with the message of Salvation through Jesus Christ and help people enjoy a personal growing relationship with Him. Eph 1:23 [DHH/NLT]; Matt 28:19-20 [NVI/NIV]; 2 Cor 5:17 [DHH/NLT]

8. Baptism by immersion

Baptism by immersion is a public declaration of faith in Christ. The Bible commands us to be baptized and to baptize. Baptism is the symbol of commitment you made to serve God and demonstrates your faith and that you are a believer. Baptism symbolizes death to the old way of living and resurrection to a new way of living in Christ. Col 2:12 [DHH/NLT]; Matt 28:19 [NVI/NIV]

9. The Lord's Supper

We believe in the observance of the Lord's Supper, which consists of bread and wine. This experience is a memorial of the suffering and death of Jesus Christ and a proclamation of His second coming. 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 [NVI/NLT]

10. Worship of God

We believe worship is the surrendering of a believer's entire life to God for His use. The more we seek God through a growing relationship with Him, the more he reveals His glorious nature to us. This revelation leads us to value and honor God through our thoughts, words, and actions. This lifestyle is our act of worship. Worship is not only what happens at church, it is what takes place in the believer's entire life at all times and in all places. Romans 12:1 [NVI/NLT]; John 4:21,23 [DHH/NLT].

11. Divine Healing

We believe Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the Cross affords us an opportunity to experience divine healing. Through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the prayers of believers and/or the laying on of hands, God can heal from illness. 1 Peter 2:24b [DHH/NLT]; James 5:14-16 [DHH/NLT]

12. Laying on of Hands.

We believe also in the laying on of hands for the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the ordination of pastors, elders, and deacons, and for the receiving of the perpetuity of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 6:6, 8:17; 1 Timothy 4:14)

13. The Apostle's Creed

We believe in what is termed "the apostles' creed" as embodying the fundamental facts of the Christian faith.

14. Eternal Life

We believe Jesus Christ died and resurrected and has gone to prepare a place for all believers. We believe we are eternal souls who will one day live and reign with Jesus Christ forever. John 14:2-3[DHH/NLT] ;1 John 5:11 [DHH/NLT]

15. Marriage

We believe that marriage is exclusively the legal union of one genetic male and one genetic female sanctioned by the state and evidenced by a marriage ceremony. We also believe that legitimate biblical sexual relations are exercised solely within marriage. Hence, sexual activities such as, but not limited to, adultery, fornication, pre-marital sex, incest, polygamy, homosexuality, transgenderism, bisexuality, cross-dressing, pedophilia and bestiality are inconsistent with the teachings of the Bible and the Church. Further, lascivious behavior, the creation, viewing and/or distribution of pornography and efforts to alter one's physical gender or gender related appearance are incompatible with a true biblical witness. (Genesis 2:24; 1 Corinthians 5:11; 6:9; 6:18-20; 7:1-3; 7:8-9; Romans 1:18-32)

16. God as the Creator

We believe in the creation and God as the Creator. We believe that God created man and that He created them male and female. As such He created them different so as to complement and complete each other. God instituted monogamous marriage between male and female as the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. For this reason homosexuality, and all other “sexual preferences” or “orientations” are unnatural, sinful, and unacceptable to God (I Corinthians 6:9-11; I Timothy 1:9-11). Accordingly, this ministry will not perform any marriage ceremonies between two individuals of the same sex. It will not condone or recognize such same-sex marriages, civil unions, or domestic partnerships even if the state passes laws that provide for recognition of such unions.

IV. Casa de Alabanza Objectives

The objectives of this corporation shall be to proclaim the good news of salvation by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ by using any suitable method or media, which includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Establishing and operating a local church for the religious worship of Jesus Christ, including without limitation, the building, maintaining and operating of churches, bookstores, café's, parsonages, schools, colleges, chapels, daycare centers, radio stations, television stations, rescue missions, missionary auxiliaries, missions outreaches, print shops, camps, and any other ministries that the Board of Directors may be led of God, all of which are established for the benefit of the congregation of **CASA DE ALABANZA, INC.**
2. Providing opportunities for spiritual, physical, intellectual, social and cultural development including, but not limited to, conducting Bible studies, worshiping and sharing the message and good news of Jesus Christ, using personal evangelism, media (including, but not limited to, print, video, audio, radio, television and internet), missions, crusades, preaching, counseling, prayer, benevolence, comforting, Christian schools and educational activities and any other service or activity directed for Christian purposes;
3. Assisting and furthering the task of providing Biblical Scripture to the community and other groups through the Holy Scriptures and other printed material by offering bible studies, church services, or any other public gatherings and by providing speakers and other instructional and educational programs which may be deemed necessary in effecting the above purposes;

4. Establishing new programs of outreach and ministry, and the strengthening of existing programs and organizations which have a similar purpose and dedication to presenting Christ as Savior.
5. To do only that which glorifies the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
6. **To engage in spiritual work and services based upon the authority of the Holy Bible.**

Core Values

Casa de Alabanza is guided and represented by these core values:

1. Biblical Authority

The Bible, God's Word, is the final authority for our lives.

2. Compelled by the mission

God has called us to lead people in a growing relationship with Jesus Christ

3. Bound by Love

We demonstrate God's love in everything we do and say.

4. Personal Relationship with God

God desires a personal relationship with everyone.

5. Authentic Community

Spiritual growth and every aspect of life happen best with relationally-connected believers.

6. Relational Evangelism

We communicate God's love and message of forgiveness within the context of personal relationships.

7. Relationally Driven

We thrive on developing meaningful relationships.

8. Intentional Apprenticing

We are responsible to pass along to others the knowledge, skills, and opportunities that have been entrusted to us.