

## The Chinese Christian Church of Columbia Policy Statements

The purpose of these policy statements is to clarify and implement our understanding of the teachings of the Scriptures, as it relates to the life of the Chinese Christian Church of Columbia.

### “Charismatic” Teachings

We appreciate the importance of the gifts of the Spirit and welcome their use according to the guidelines given in the Scriptures. We believe that God gives spiritual gifts according to His sovereign plan for the purpose of edifying the Church (1 Corinthians 12:7; 1 Corinthians 14; 1 Peter 4:10; Ephesians 4:11-13). We do not, however, consider our church to be a charismatic church. We do not promote “charismatic” teachings that may compromise the unity of the church or lead to a theology that is inconsistent with our statement of faith.

### Homosexuality

We believe that the Scriptures teach that homosexuality is contrary to God's created order and entered the world as a result of mankind's rebellion against God. Thus, the Scriptures condemn and prohibit the practice of homosexual behavior. (Genesis 1:27,28, Genesis 2:24, Leviticus 18:22, Romans 1:26,27) However, the Scriptures also hold out hope and grace to all who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 6:9-11) Although we do not condone the practice of homosexual behavior, in the spirit of compassion we desire to extend assistance and counsel to those who may be unaware of or struggle with this expression of the sin nature.

### Divorce

God intends for marriage to be a life-long commitment (Matthew 19:4-8). If that commitment is broken or put at risk, it is our aim to help bring reconciliation and restoration whenever possible. If a divorce occurs or is anticipated, this may adversely affect one's example and, therefore, may have a limiting effect on the appropriateness of serving in certain ministry positions. This will be determined by the elder board or equivalent through a period of evaluation during which one is relieved of responsibilities in these ministry positions.