



GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
DO WE HAVE TO BE EQUALLY  
CERTAIN ON EVERYTHING?  
POSITION PAPER

POSITION P-9  
Adopted: 1/18/03  
Revised : 9/13/18  
Reviewed: 1/28/22

In all areas of Scripture, we believe in an inerrant Bible. We encourage intelligent wrestling with significant questions and at the same time, protect freedom in areas of uncertainty. Our goal is to maintain truth as taught in Scripture, while defending unity within the body of Christ.

When approaching scriptural doctrine, the Elders of Grace Community Church recommend distinguishing levels of belief. This can be a helpful practice when approaching Scripture because there are many issues involved. Some of the issues are very clear while others can be less clear and difficult to understand.

One method of distinguishing levels of belief is to divide the levels of belief into four categories. The four categories include; level “A” or “die for” issues, level “B” or “divide for” issues, level “C” or “debate for” issues, and level “D” or “decide for” issues. The following examples are places where these differences may occur.

**Level “A” belief (Die for)** are the gospel essentials, the highest level of beliefs held by an individual or the church. These beliefs are so important, that an individual would be martyred for these truths, and denying them knowingly would indicate one is not a believer. (Ex: God is triune, one in essence but existing as three persons.)

**Level “B” beliefs (Divide for)** include those issues so central to Christian life & worship that true believers could not minister effectively in the same church when their convictions lead them to persistent disagreement. (Ex: God keeps believers so that they will never lose their salvation vs. God allows believers to reject His gift of salvation which they had been given.)

**Level “C” beliefs (Debate for)** are beliefs where individuals disagree and growl at each other when these issues come up but work together positively, joyfully, and productively in the same fellowship. These beliefs, and their differences, should be viewed as points of distinction rather than divisive points. (Ex: God is unchanging in all His ways vs. God chooses to change his course of action in response to human prayer)



GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
DO WE HAVE TO BE EQUALLY  
CERTAIN ON EVERYTHING?  
POSITION PAPER

POSITION P-9  
Adopted: 1/18/03  
Revised : 9/13/18  
Reviewed: 1/28/22

**Level “D” beliefs (Decide for)** are beliefs that believers can easily agree to differ on because the issues are neither clearly taught in Scripture nor are they central to the life and unity of the church. (Ex: Does God have a sense of humor or not?)

Grace Community Church is a community made up of Jesus followers extending grace. We acknowledge that we are a diverse group, with a wide variety of backgrounds, history, life experiences, and understanding of scripture. It is our desire that Grace Community Church would be a place where people can engage with the Word of God and each other as we deepen our faith in Jesus. It is toward this end that we again affirm the inerrancy of Scripture and defend unity in the Body of Christ.