



First Presbyterian Church Bethlehem Presbyterians for Unity



RESPONSE TO SESSION: JESUS-CENTERED BIBLICALLY-BASED CORE THEOLOGY

THE TRUTH:

In 1994, the Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly overwhelmingly adopted the following statements regarding **the central importance of both Christ and Scripture...**

Reference: PC (USA) website

- ***We affirm the one triune God.***
- ***We affirm the uniqueness of God's incarnation in Jesus Christ.***
- ***We affirm the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for our salvation.***
- ***We affirm that the Scriptures, by the Holy Spirit, are the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ.***

THE TRUTH:

All PC (USA) leaders **must answer in the affirmative** the following question prior to ordination: *Reference: PC (USA) Book of Order*

“Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ Universal and God’s Word to you?”

WHAT OUR FPCB SESSION HAS PUBLISHED:

Session states that many PC (USA) leaders have abandoned a “core theology of Salvation through Christ alone and the Authority of Scriptures.” *Reference: “Why the Session Recommends ECO”*

- **Session identifies and quotes only two individuals to support this vague innuendo.**
- There are approximately **20,000 ordained PC (USA) leaders** in the denomination.
- **Note the ordination question and the official positions of the PC (USA) above.**

Session has falsely characterized the PC (USA) as a “denomination that does not consistently align with a core theology” of believing that Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life and that this “creates both a crisis of conscience and a missional disconnect.”

Reference: “Why the Session Recommends ECO”

- The official positions of the PC (USA), as seen above, **clearly belie our Session’s false characterization** of the PC (USA).