

DOCTRINE	MORMONISM	EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANITY
Nature of God	Heavenly Father has a body of flesh and bones (Doctrine and Covenants 130:22) who lived in a previous existence as a human.	God the Father is spirit (John 4:24) and has eternally existed as God (Ps. 90:2; Isa. 43:10; 44:6,8).
Jesus	The firstborn child of Heavenly Father who is the Savior of humanity. Jesus is a god but not equal to the Father.	Jesus is <i>fully</i> God who came to the earth as a man and died on the cross. He then bodily resurrected from the dead.
Trinity	Rejection of the Trinity. God is one in purpose but not one in essence. Each person in the Godhead is a separate god (tritheism).	One God in three persons who is both one in essence as well as purpose. Each Person is fully God but retains His own personality.
Salvation	Depending on the context, "general salvation" is the ability for a person to gain one of the three "kingdoms of glory" through the atonement and grace offered by Jesus, something all humans will receive. "Individual salvation" is equated with eternal life/exaltation; those who qualify for this realm will exist as gods and goddesses throughout eternity.	Three distinctions: 1) Past tense, comes by grace through faith and not by works (Justification); 2) Present tense, good works in a believer's life (sanctification); 3) Future tense, existing in heaven with glorified bodies forever (glorification).
Humanity	All people are commanded to repent by successfully keeping the commandments of God.	Original sin came through the disobedience of Adam, tainting all people and preventing a relationship with God.
Scripture	The Old and New Testaments (King James Version) of the Bible as well as the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price. Also, those authoritative teachings given by current church leaders.	The 66 books of the Old and New Testaments constitute the Word of God. There is a closed canon, with no additional books or writings accepted as authoritative.
Heaven/Hell	Heaven (celestial kingdom) is eternal existence with one's earthly family; hell is equated with a place called "outer darkness" and is not a possibility for most humans.	Heaven is eternal existence with God. Hell is eternal separation from God, a possible destination for those who reject Him.
Church	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Through the Great Apostasy that took place soon after the death of Jesus' apostles, God's authority was lost from the earth before it was restored by Joseph Smith in 1830.	Depending on the context, the church generally refers to all true believers who have placed their faith in Jesus as Savior. No religious organization or denomination holds a monopoly on Christianity.

Comparison of Essential Doctrines*

*[Table adapted from Eric Johnson, *Introducing Christianity to Mormons* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 2022), 14-16.]