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Train & Multiply™

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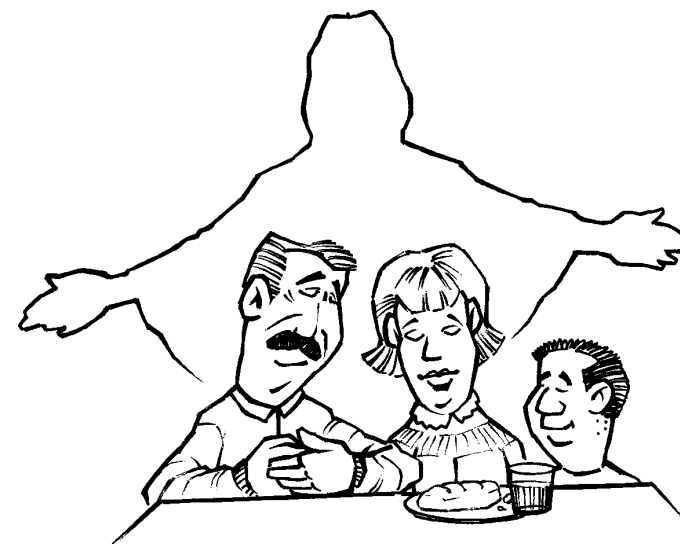
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Dynamic Doctrines



Pastoral Leader Training Booklet

42

Train & Multiply™



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As we study and teach these vital truths of the Christian faith, let us ask for the illumination of the Holy Spirit, Who will guide us into all truth. (John 16:13)

GOD AND HIS REVELATION

The Trinity

There is only one, true God. In Scripture, God is recognized as being three Persons. “Trinity” means “Three in One” (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit). They are equal in power and perfection.

GOD IS ONE
(Mark 12:29-30)

SUMMARY TEST

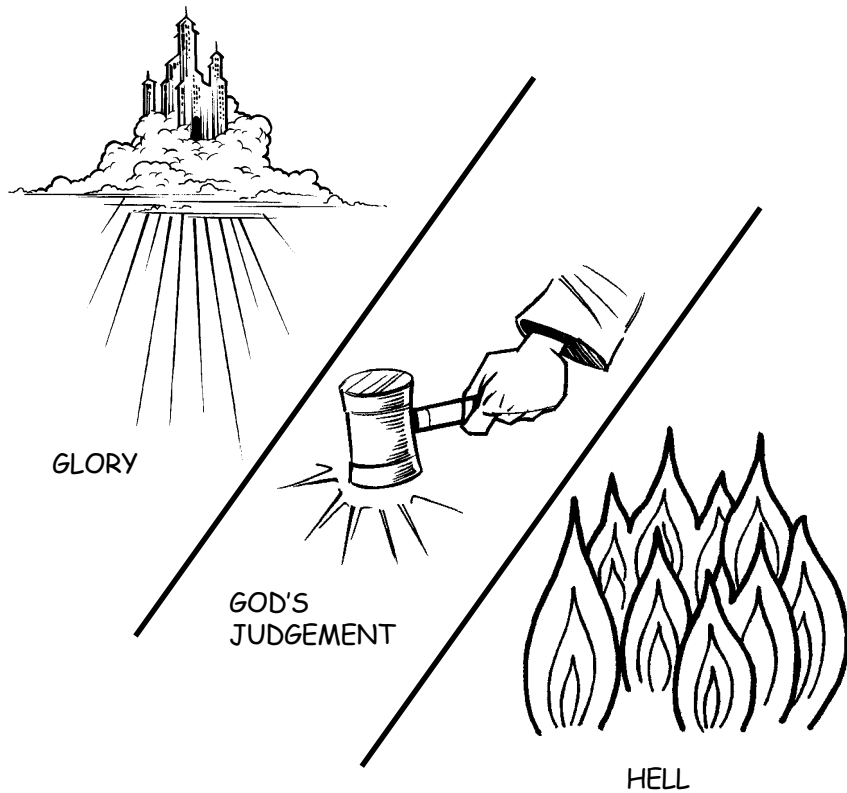
1. What does the word “Trinity” mean?

2. How can a person be saved?

3. Why is faith without works dead?

PRACTICAL WORK

- Little by little, help your people to understand the doctrines explained in this Pastoral Study.



**Heaven is the place of the GRACE and
MERCY of God, for those who have
given their lives to Jesus Christ.**

God is:

- FATHER (1 Corinthians 8:6)
- SON (John 1:1,14 and 49)
- HOLY SPIRIT (John 15:26)

The THREE united and inseparable Persons work together.
(1 Corinthians 12:3-6, 2 Corinthians 13:14, 1 Peter 1:2)

The Persons of the Trinity do not exist apart from each other. The
“Jehovah’s Witnesses” deny that Jesus is God, equal to the Father.

Jesus Christ is God, one with the Father and one with the Holy Spirit.

- Matthew 1:23, Matthew 28:17-19
- Mark 14:61-62
- John 1:1-3, John 17:5
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Colossians 1:15-19, Colossians 2:9-10
- Hebrews 1:8

The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit share the same attributes:

- God is holy (Isaiah 6:3),
- God is one (Deuteronomy 6:4),
- God is life (John 5:26),
- God never changes (James 1:17),
- God is eternal (everlasting) (1 Timothy 6:16),
- Father, Son and Holy Spirit think, feel and exercise will
(that is, each member of the Trinity has the characteristics of a person) (Exodus 3:14),
- God is love (1 John 4:8),
- Perfection (Matthew 5:48),
- Truth (1 John 5:20),
- Power (Genesis 17:1),
- God is everywhere (“omnipresent”) (1 Kings 8:27),
- God knows everything (He is “omniscient”) (Hebrews 4:13),
- God is perfectly just (Deuteronomy 32:4).

These attributes, or characteristics, are essential aspects of God’s Being. To some extent He shares these with some of His creatures. For example, human beings love because we are created in God’s image, and He is the only source of perfect love. God is love.

Why did Jesus say that our resurrection “is coming and has now come”? Some explain it this way. The resurrection as Jesus said, **HAS COME** in God’s ever-present time but **IS COMING** (future, in man’s earthly view of time). We who die in Christ are with the Lord, in God’s hands, who exists outside of time as we know it on earth, so we are transformed and transported to the moment of His coming. Just how God does this is a mystery about which theologians disagree.

The Last Judgment

At the last judgment, those whose names are not written in the Book of Life will be sentenced to everlasting punishment. They are those who have not obeyed Christ as Lord and Savior. John saw a vision of judgment and of the lake of fire, in Revelation 20:11-15.

This final judgment of unbelievers will be according to their works. (Revelation 20:12) God’s justice is perfect. The punishment will be perfectly just; exactly what those who have rejected Christ merit.

The Resurrection

Christ rose from the dead and ascended to heaven. This is the greatest miracle in the New Testament. Through His resurrection, Jesus Christ gives us new birth and a share in His eternal life.

(1 Corinthians 15:17-23, Ephesians 2:4-7, 1 Peter 1:3)

Before the judgment, all will be raised from the dead. Christ will raise those who know Him to eternal life. The ungodly will be raised to the perdition of the “second death” in hell.

(John 5:25-29, Revelation 20:11-15)

When a believer dies, he “sleeps” until the resurrection.

(1 Thessalonians 4:13-17) God, with whom there is no past, present or future, sees this resurrection as something already done.

(John 5:25, Luke 23:43, 2 Corinthians 4:14-18, and 5:1-8, Ephesians 2:6, Philippians 1:21-23)

Jesus says: *“The time is coming, and has now come, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.”* (John 5:25) Time does not limit God. For the Lord, one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

(2 Peter 3:8)

God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, made all there is, out of nothing. He is Supreme Judge, Holy, All-powerful and worthy of all love, worship and obedience.

Man’s purpose is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. We cannot put in His place any image, person or other object of worship. We pray to the Father in the name of the Son, through the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 6:9, John 16:24, Ephesians 6:18)



God the Father

Some works of the Father are to:

- send the Son and the Holy Spirit to do His work.
 - John 14:16 and 26
 - John 17:8 and 18
- ordain every eternal law and all that will happen, according to His plan.
 - Isaiah 14:26-27
 - Isaiah 46:9-13
 - Matthew 26:42
 - Romans 8:28-30
 - Ephesians 1:11
 - Ephesians 3:10-11

- He will raise the dead, and transform those believers who are still alive. (1 Corinthians 15:51-52, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)
- He will judge the world. (2 Thessalonians 2:1-8, 2 Peter 3:7-10)

Some people have tried to calculate when the Lord will come. For example, the sect called “Jehovah’s Witnesses” calculated that the Lord Jesus would return in 1914. Nothing happened. But they still insist that He came invisibly! Early “Adventists” also calculated that the Lord would come in the year 1843.

In Matthew 24:23-27, Jesus warns us:

“At that time, if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ,’ or ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. For false Christ’s and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect - if that is possible. See, I have told you ahead of time. So if anyone tells you, ‘There he is, out in the desert’ do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.”

We Christians extend God's Kingdom despite Satan and his demons. We are involved in a spiritual battle as, in faith, we evangelize, pray, fast and live righteous, glowing lives. At the Last Judgment, Satan, the fallen angels and all those who rejected salvation in Christ, will be punished in the lake of fire. (Matthew 25:41, Jude 6, Revelation 20:10-15.)

****For more information see the Study "Overcoming the Darkness."**

THE FUTURE

The Second Coming of Christ

Our Lord is coming with His angels to raise the dead, to take His Church away with Him, and to judge the world.

- The Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ will be **VISIBLE**. (Matthew 24:30, Acts 1:11, Revelation 1:7)
- He will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night, when we least expect Him. (Matthew 24:42-44, 2 Peter 3:10)
- He will come to glorify His redeemed and to make a new creation. (Romans 8:11, 19-23, 2 Peter 3:13, Revelation 21:1)

God the Son, the Only Savior

God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, who became man. He fulfilled God's law with perfect obedience. He paid with His life the terrible penalty deserved by everyone in the world. He suffered on the cross for sinful mankind. (John 3:16)

Jesus rose from the dead, and ascended to heaven. (Luke 24:34,51) He is seated at the right hand of God the Father. There, he intercedes for all believers. (Romans 8:34)

He is the only mediator between God and men. (1 Timothy 2:5)

Jesus Christ is God; He is also man. (1 Corinthians 15:21-22, Romans 5:15) He is not half God and half man, but is perfect God and perfect man.

He has the two complete natures, divine and human. They are united in one person. So, He unites us, too, with God. (John 14:9, John 17:21-23) Our sure and certain hope in life and death is that we belong completely to our Lord Jesus Christ. (John 10:28)

God the Holy Spirit

God gives His Holy Spirit to those who believe in Christ. (Acts 2:38, Ephesians 1:13) The Holy Spirit gives us new birth (John 3:3-8), baptizes us into the eternal Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13) and seals us as God's possessors. (Ephesians 1:13-14) The Holy Spirit fills us, and gives us power and gifts to serve God. What Christ does in us, He does through the Holy Spirit, who perfects the image of Christ in us.

Important Bible passages about the Holy Spirit:

- His work (John 14-16),
- His witness to our spirit (Romans 8),
- His coming on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2),
- His fruit (the virtues that He produces in us Galatians 5:22-23),
- His gifts (Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12 and 14).

SPIRITUAL BEINGS

Angels

God created angels; they are spiritual beings who serve Him. (Hebrews 1:7, Revelation 5:11) They also serve and protect the redeemed. (Hebrews 1:14) They have power, but not as God has, and do not know everything. We do not worship them. (1 Peter 1:12, Revelation 19:9-10) They will accompany the Lord at His Second Coming. (Matthew 25:31)

Demons

Satan used to be the wise and beautiful cherubim, Lucifer. (Ezekiel 28:12-19) But he rebelled against God, and dragged other angels down with him.

These fallen angels are now evil spirits, who affect the world. (Ephesians 2:1-3) Satan tempts and accuses us. (Matthew 4:3, Revelation 12:10) His legion of demons sometimes oppress and overpower people. (Luke 8:26-33) They also sow false teaching in the Church. They disguise themselves as angels of light to deceive people. (Matthew 7:15, 2 Corinthians 11:13-15, 1 Timothy 4:1)

When is it right to disobey civil law?

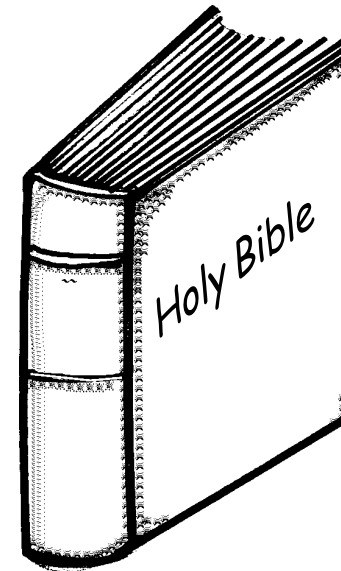
(Check your answer with Acts 5:29)



The Bible

The Scriptures are our highest authority for the doctrine, teaching and practice of the Church. The believer, guided by the Holy Spirit, interprets the Bible for his own edification and so that he may be able to teach others also. (2 Timothy 2:2)

The Bible is God's Word; it is what God Himself has said. His Holy Spirit inspired the human writers, who wrote the truth. It is God's message to mankind. His revelation to us is complete; we cannot add to it nor take from it. (Revelations 22:18-19) Other books can help build us up spiritually, but are not inspired by God, and do not have the same authority.



“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be fully equipped for every good work.”
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Be sure to read and meditate on a part of the Bible daily, to know God and obey His will.

Summary - God Reveals Himself in Three Ways

- In His Son (Hebrews 1:1-3)
- In His Word (for believers) (Psalm 19:7-10, Romans 10)
- In nature, which includes our own human nature (Psalm 19:1-7, Romans 1:19-20, and 2:14-15)

In the resurrection, we will see Christ face to face, the perfect revelation of God. (1 Corinthians 13:12, 1 John 3:2)

The Church and the State

God established the nations and their governments, for order in society. We should pray for the authorities, and obey them. (Romans 13:1-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-2) We take part in society as good citizens, and obey the law, so long as it does not contradict God's law. The Lord rules our conscience. (Acts 5:26-29)

We must distinguish between the Church and the State. One should not try to rule the other. Christ said: *“Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.”* (Matthew 22:21) In John 18:36 He also explained: *“My kingdom is from another place.”*

The church cooperates with the government all it can, but when a church JOINS the state, she becomes an instrument of earthly, temporal government.

The Church of Jesus Christ is UNIVERSAL, SPIRITUAL, ETERNAL. Church and State are separate institutions. We should where possible, ensure that members of the Government are aware of God's laws, so that they make and keep laws according to His Word.

The Lord's Day

In the New Testament the first day of the week is called “the Lord’s day” (Revelation 1:10) because the Lord Jesus rose from the dead the first day of the week. (John 19, John 20:1) The believers met on the first day to “break bread,” for teaching, worship, and to gather the offerings. (1 Corinthians 16:1-2)

There is no obligation to keep the Sabbath, as in the Old Testament. (Romans 14:5-6, Colossians 2:16) The seventh day looked back to the old creation (Exodus 20:11); the first day looks forward, towards Jesus Christ’s new creation. (Colossians 1:18) Keeping Sunday is not a command of Christ, but it was an apostolic practice to meet on that day.

To which Covenant do we Christians belong, the OLD or the NEW?



REDEMPTION

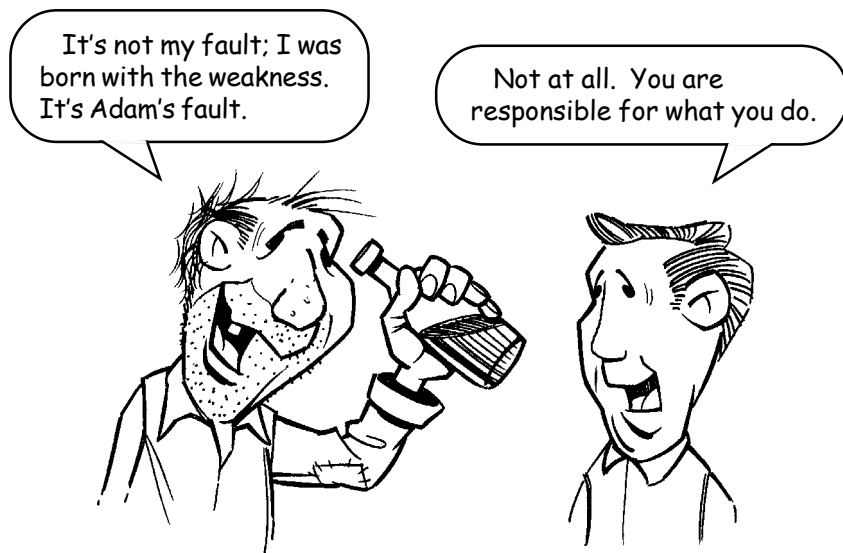
Redemption means being rescued from the guilt and power of sin, and death, through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Man - His Fall and Guilt

The first man was made perfect, but he disobeyed His Maker and fell into sin. (Genesis 2 and 3) We, Adam’s descendants, are rebellious sinners. We sin deliberately and because of our fallen nature; every sinner is guilty and under God’s just condemnation. (Romans 5:12-19)

It is through knowing God’s law that we recognize our sin. In our fallen state we cannot obey His law. (Romans 3:20, Romans 7:7)

Through Adams sin entered the world (Romans 5:12) and passed on to us, but we have no excuse (Romans 3:23); we are responsible for our actions. We cannot say: “I can’t help sinning.” The Lord hates sin. When we realize our enormous guilt, and that we are condemned, we seek salvation.



Why can't we put the blame for our sin on Adam?

After death, comes judgement. (Hebrews 9:27) We are only in this world once. So-called "reincarnation" is one of Satan's lies. People cannot change their destiny, after they are dead.

There is a contrast between Adam's descendants, and those who belong to the Lord Jesus Christ, which can be shown as follows:

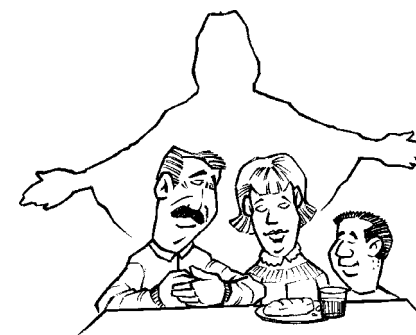
The Lord's Supper

In the Lord's Supper, Jesus Christ commanded us to remember His death for us. (Luke 22:19) It confirms the New Covenant, in which our sins are forgiven because of the blood of Christ. (Matthew 26:26-28) The bread and the wine are our communion in the body and blood of Christ. (1 Corinthians 10:16) It also reminds us that Christ is coming again. (1 Corinthians 11:26)

The Supper is for baptized believers. (Acts 2:38-42) We examine ourselves before taking part, and confess our sins to God. (1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

At first, the Supper was celebrated daily. (Acts 2:42,46) Later, the church in Troas met on Sundays to "break bread." (Acts 20:7) A church that neglects the Lord's Supper is disobedient, and dishonors the Lord.

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him..." (John 6:56)



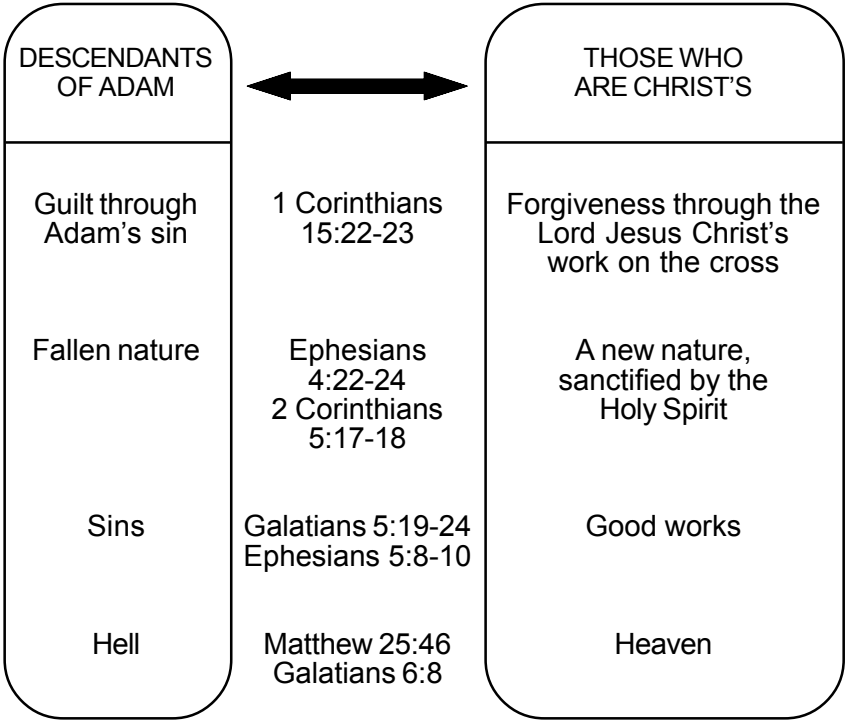
Baptism

Baptism in water shows the new believer’s faith and repentance. It is the first step that the repentant new believer takes.
(Acts 2:38-42, Acts 8:12-13, Acts 8:36-38, Acts 9:17-19, Acts 10:44-48, Acts 16:14-15, Acts 16:30-34, and Acts 18:8)

The rite with water, in itself, does not save; it expresses the faith, repentance and cleansing from sin, through which God saves, because of Christ’s death and resurrection. (Acts 22:16, 1 Peter 3:21)

The elders of the church baptize in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)

Baptism means dying with Christ to sin, and rising with Him to new life. (Romans 6:3-8)



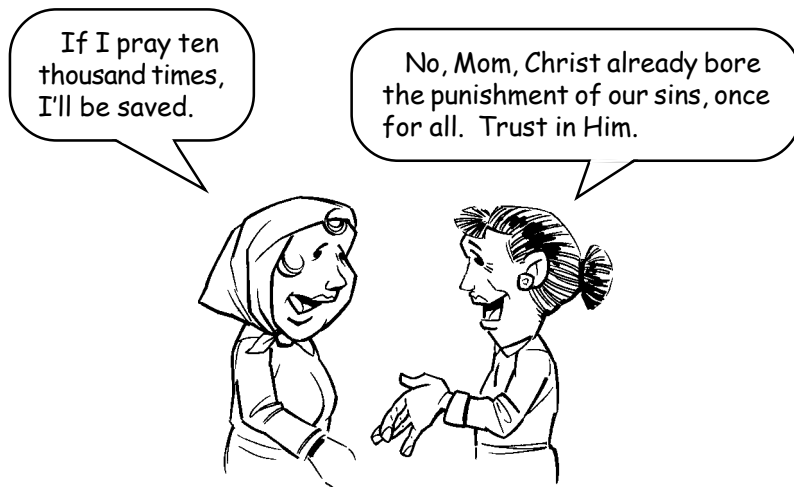
Salvation

Our eternal salvation is a gift of God, and is through His grace alone. When we repent, we are saved through faith in Christ.
(Romans 3:21-26) We are not saved BY good works, but FOR good works. (Ephesians 2:8-10)

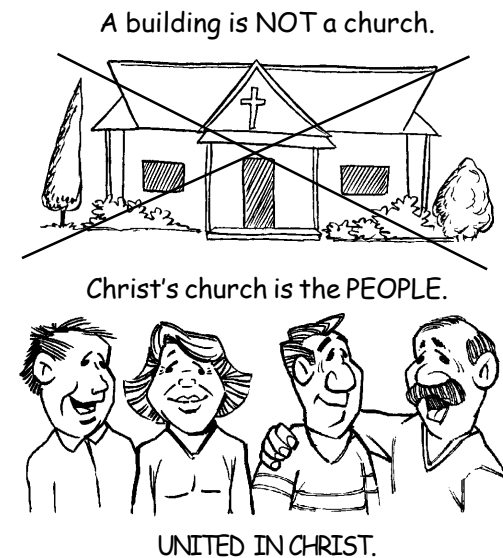
A sinner is saved when he is born again. (John 3:5) The Holy Spirit gives him this new life. The new Christian wants to obey God's Word, out of love. (John 3:5-8, John 14:15, 2 Corinthians 5:17)

Why can't we save ourselves by doing "good works?"

Through His death, Christ obtained our eternal FORGIVENESS, and by His resurrection Christ enables us to share His ETERNAL LIFE. (John 10:28, Romans 6:23) Just as the ark saved Noah and his family, so the Lord Jesus takes us from death to glory. (John 14:1-3, Colossians 3:4)



- Each member was baptized, and shared the Lord's Supper. (Acts 2:37-43)
- Each member had a ministry, according to his gift. (Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12) The word "members" comes from the Bible (Romans 12:4-5); it means different parts of a body. If one believer is a "foot" who does not serve the Lord, the body is lame. It cannot function properly, because of that one's disobedience.
- Their leaders included "elders" (pastors) and "deacons," who helped in practical ways. (1 Timothy 3:1-13, 1 Peter 5:1-4, Acts 6:1-7 and 14:23)



Glorification When Jesus comes again, God will transform us, and we will see the Lord face to face (1 Corinthians 13:12 and 15:51-54), but unbelievers will go to the “second death.” (Revelation 20:11-15)

THE BODY OF CHRIST

The Church

The Church is the body of Christ, all those who through repentance and faith have received the Spirit of God. A local congregation is a group of believers committed to obeying Christ’s commands.

The Apostles’ churches are a model for us; they had the following characteristics:

- They acknowledged Christ as their only Head.
(Colossians 1:18)
- The Scriptures, which included the Apostles’ teaching, were the only rule of their doctrine and ministry. (Acts 2:42, 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Faith

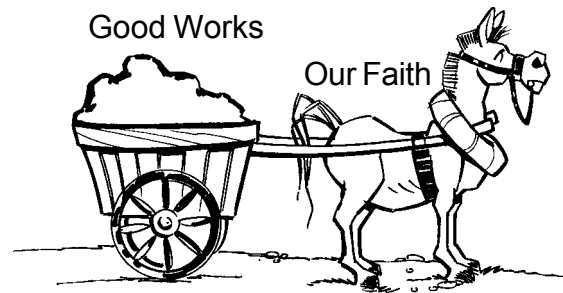
Together, repentance and faith are the MEANS by which we receive salvation. Faith is the full and unconditional trust which the Holy Spirit gives us. The sinner acknowledges his sin and turns to God in repentance, accepting Christ as his Savior and Lord.

True faith does not just “accept” the Gospel. God’s Spirit, in us, assures us that we are forgiven. God renews us, in Christ, through His Spirit. (Titus 3:5-6)

Faith without works is dead. (James 2:26) It is merely a belief, nothing more, whereas a living faith obeys Christ, and is heartily thankful for His sufferings on the cross. Through faith, we share Christ’s resurrection, and begin a new life. (2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 2:20)

According to Ephesians 2:8-10, salvation:

- ☐ is the reward for good works.
- ☐ produces good works.



Abundant Grace

God forgives us only through His grace and mercy; His love for us is infinite. It is seen in the death of the Savior.

(Romans 5:8, Ephesians 1:7-8, and 2:4-7)

Christ's sacrifice is eternal, and completely effective for the believer's salvation. (Romans 3:21-26, and 5:1-2, Hebrews 9:12)

No one is worthy of this grace; we have all sinned against the Most Holy God. But He, in His great love, chose us from eternity to be saved. (Ephesians 1:4-6)

Why can no one boast before God? (Ephesians 2:8-10)

The Fall	Adam and all men sinned and deserve condemnation. (Romans 5:12-21)
Redemption	Our Lord Jesus Christ died and rose for us, paying the penalty for our sin, freeing us from the dominion of Satan, the flesh and the world. Now we belong to Jesus. (2 Corinthians 5:14-21, Ephesians 2:1-10)
Conviction	The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin through Scripture and our conscience. (John 16:8-11, Romans 10:17)
New birth	When we believe in Christ, we are reborn spiritually as God's children; He gives us the Spirit of His Son Jesus Christ. Through the Holy Spirit we are united in the body of Christ. (John 1:12, 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 1 Peter 1:3-5)
Sanctification	The Holy Spirit transforms us into the image of Christ, helps us to live a life worthy of Him and motivates us to do good works. We give ourselves to God, are baptized, pray, study and obey the Word of God, despite trials and difficulties. (John 14:15, John 17:17, 2 Corinthians 3:18, 1 Peter 1:6-9)

Eternal Life

Salvation is eternal. (John 3:16, John 5:24, 1 Peter 1:3-9) If you are TRULY SAVED (through sincere faith and repentance), the ETERNAL LIFE that Christ has given you will never end. (John 10:27-30)

Our eternal life does not depend on us, but on Jesus Christ.

We were chosen in Christ from before the foundation of the world to be saved (Romans 9:11, John 15:16, Ephesians 1:4, Acts 13:48), and nothing can separate us from Him: neither Satan, nor death, nor tribulations, nor anything else. (John 5:24, John 10:27-30, Romans 8:35-39)

The Holy Spirit has sealed us; this seal is a guarantee that we belong to God. (Ephesians 1:13-14)

Summary of God's Plan

Divine Election We were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world. (Ephesians 1:4)

Holiness and Obedience

Sanctification has two aspects: one instantaneous, the other progressive.

By God's grace, when we are converted, He separates us from the world, making us His children, His holy possession. In His sight, we have already been made completely holy. (Hebrews 10:10)

Furthermore, there is a process of spiritual growth, in which the believer turns away from sin to obey God and become more and more like Christ. The Holy Spirit goes on perfecting us, day by day.

God makes us holy; this involves every aspect of our life, our character and conduct. It means "taking off" the old way of living, and "putting on" the new way of life, being changed until we are changed into the image of Christ. When we die, or when Christ returns, we will be made perfect in holiness, because we will see Him as He is. (1 John 3:2-3)

Holiness is the fruit of the Holy Spirit. It includes the virtues mentioned in Galatians 5:22-23 and Ephesians 5:9, which are:

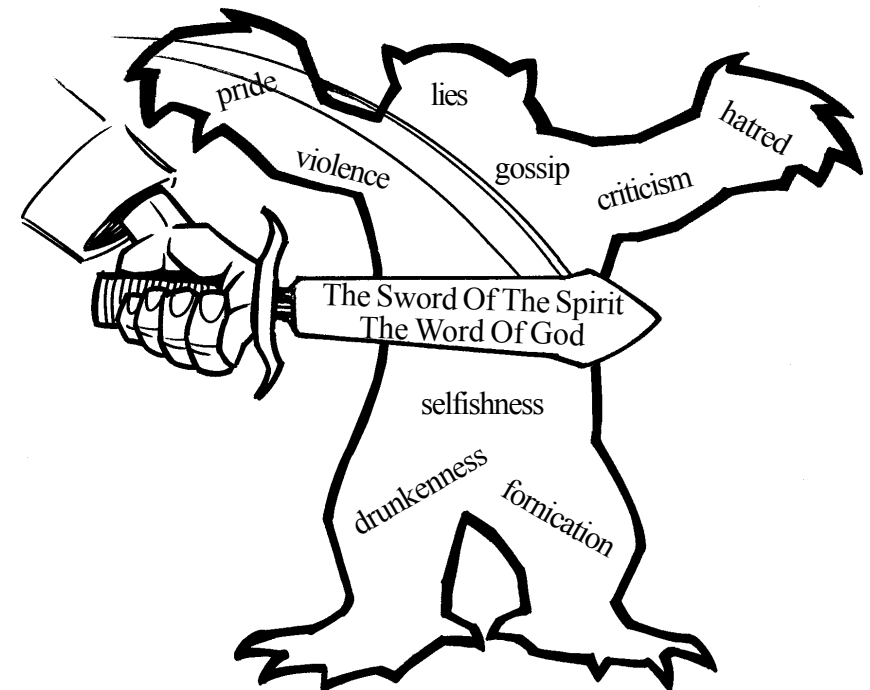
- love,
- joy,
- peace,
- patience,
- kindness,
- goodness,
- faithfulness,
- gentleness,
- self-control,
- righteousness,
- truth.

Which of these virtues needs to BE SEEN more in your life?

Do you always WITNESS for Christ when God gives the opportunity?

Do you GIVE with cheerfulness? _____

Do you LOVE GOD with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind, and LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR as yourself?



We must put to death the works of the flesh.
(Romans 8:13, Colossians 3:5)