

Elementary

Truths

&

Teachings

(Hebrews 5:11 – 6:3)

“There is one body and one Spirit – just as you were called to one hope when you were called – one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” – Ephesians 4:4-6

One God Seeking God

Genesis 1:1-5 *God is the Great Creator. He is infinite.*

Do you believe that God created everything?
God chose to create you because he wants a relationship with you.

Jeremiah 29:11-13 *We will find God when we seek Him with all of our hearts.*

What are the promises from God in these verses?
What part must we play in finding God?
What does it mean to seek God with all of your heart?

Matthew 7:7-11 *Persistence is necessary in finding God.*

What does it take to find God according to these scriptures?
What descriptions of God can we find in these scriptures?

Matthew 6:25-34 *Worrying can distract us from finding God.*

What kinds of things do you worry about?
How could those things distract you from seeking God?
What does it mean to seek first His kingdom and His righteousness?

Acts 17:22-31 *God made everything and everyone for the purpose of finding Him.*

Why did God create you and bring you to this very place and time?
What are some reasons people don't find God?
What is the reason God no longer accepts ignorance?

Acts 8:26-39 *God sent a disciple to meet you. It isn't coincidence that you're here.*

The angels and the Holy Spirit are helping to get you to God
Do not be afraid to ask questions about life or the Bible – be humble
You may need someone to explain the Bible to you
You will be “rejoicing” when you find God

Personal Decisions:

Do you want to seek God wholeheartedly?
If yes, how will you do this?
Commit to reading the Bible everyday.
(Suggested reading: the Gospel of John or other appropriate passages)
When would you like to study next?

One Faith

Word of God

2 Timothy 3:16-17 *Usefulness of the Word*

What does it mean by saying “all Scripture is God breathed?”

How is the Bible useful in our lives? (Explain each: teaching, correcting, rebuking, & training in righteousness)

Why is studying the Word important in serving God?

Hebrews 4:12-13 *Relevance of the Word*

What does it mean by saying the Word is “living & active?”

How can the Word be relevant in our lives?

2 Peter 1:20-21 *Inspiration of the Word*

Who is the author of the Bible?

How did God inspire men to write His words?

Matthew 15:1-9 *Traditions vs. the Word*

When is it wrong to follow traditions?

What are the consequences of following traditions, feelings, and creeds over the Word of God?

James 1:19-25 *Obedience to the Word*

Is reading and knowing the Bible enough?

What does it mean when it describes the Word as “perfect law?”

1 Timothy 4:16 *Salvation through the Word*

Which is more important, life or doctrine?

Why is it important to persevere in them (life & doctrine)?

John 12:47-48 *Judgment by the Word*

What judges us?

How can you prepare for that judgment?

Personal Decisions:

To believe that the Bible is the complete and inspired Word of God.

To let it be the standard that you will live by; even more than your own feelings, creeds and/or traditions.

One Lord *Discipleship*

Acts 11:19-26

What is the modern term used today for describing a follower of Jesus?
What term does the Bible use? (Disciple = Christian)

Mark 1:14-18 *Beginning of Discipleship*

How would this passage define discipleship — being a student of Jesus?

1. Follow Me (Lifestyle) [ref. 1 John 2:3-6 “must walk as Jesus did”]
2. Fishers of Men (Purpose)

How quickly did they respond? What nets do you need to leave behind?

Luke 9:23-26 *Challenge of Discipleship*

What does it mean to deny yourself? What do you personally see that you will need to deny to follow Jesus?

What does it mean to carry your cross? How often do we need to do this?

What is the value of surrendering everything and following Jesus?

Luke 14:25-35 *Cost of Discipleship*

Why would Jesus want you to count the cost in following Him?

What costs are we to consider?

1. Loving Him more than anyone or anything
2. Personal devotion to Jesus (no one can do it for you — “own cross”)
3. Honest self-evaluation (“able to finish”)
4. Complete surrender of your life (Jesus is now King)
5. Remaining faithful to the end (“salt is good”)

John 8:31-32 *Standard of Discipleship*

What standard do disciples live by?

As disciples, what needs to be combined with faith?

What is the process of being “set free”?

John 13:34-35 *Relationships of Discipleship*

What kind of relationships does Jesus command His disciples to have?

How should we define our love for one another?

How is this important to our purpose?

John 15:5-8

Fruit of Discipleship

What are the consequences of not remaining in Jesus?
Will remaining in Jesus produce something in your life?
What is the purpose of bearing much fruit?
What kind of fruit does Jesus want us to produce?

Matthew 28:18-20

Commission of Discipleship

What is the foundation of discipleship?
What does Jesus want everyone to become?
How will this be accomplished?

1. Go and make disciples of all nations
2. Baptize them
3. Teach them to obey

Personal Decisions:

Are you currently living as a disciple of Jesus?
If no, what do you need to change to become a disciple?

One Baptism

Light & Darkness

1 Peter 2:9-10 *Light & Darkness*

What describes a person in darkness? (Not a people of God, no mercy)

What describes a person in the light? (people of God, received mercy)

How does one go from darkness to light? (Must be called by God)

PART I: Darkness

Isaiah 59:1-2 *Sin separates one from God*

What does sin do? (Use example of wall)

What needs to happen in order for someone to be with God?

At what point in time is a person saved?

Romans 3:23-25 *All have sinned*

Who has sinned?

Does a good moral life save you?

What can lead to salvation?

Romans 6:19-23 *Consequences of Sin*

What are the wages of sin?

What is the gift of God?

Galatians 5:19-21 *Examples of Sin*

What are the consequences of living a life of sin?

Which sins are separating you from God? (See Sin List)

1 John 1:5-10 *Confession of Sin*

What is necessary for overcoming darkness?

What is the consequence of not taking sin seriously?

PART II: Light

John 3:1-7 *Born of water and Spirit*

What is necessary to be a part of the Kingdom of God (Light)?
What is involved in being “born again?”

Acts 2:22-24, 36-41 *Conversion: Coming into the Light*

What do we need to believe?
What response should our faith in Jesus have?
What is the answer Peter gives?
What happens at baptism?
Is this the point in time that one is saved?

Romans 6:1-4 *Definition of Baptism*

What is baptism? (Greek – to immerse, to dip, to plunge)
Why is baptism the moment of salvation?
How do we come in contact with the blood of Jesus?

Illustrations of Baptism

Galatians 3:26-28 Clothe ourselves with Christ
Colossians 2:12 Raised from the dead
I Peter 3:21 It saves you

Personal Decisions:

Where are you right now; in the light or in the darkness?
What are the sins from which you need to repent? (Suggestion: write a personal sin list)
What could hold you back from making a decision to be baptized?

One Hope

Cross of Christ

Acts 2:22-24

Plan of the Cross

What was the purpose of the cross?
Who is responsible for Jesus' death?

Matthew 26:31-28:10

Pain of the Cross

What are the pains Christ suffered on the cross? (Emotional, Physical, Spiritual)
Describe the emotional pain Jesus went through. (stress, loneliness, betrayal, false accusations, humiliation, denial)
Describe the physical pain. (Read Medical Account)
What is the spiritual pain Christ suffered? (**Matthew 27:45-50** separated from God for the first time)

I Peter 2:21-25

Personal Responsibility of the Cross

Why was Jesus separated from God?
How does that make you feel knowing Jesus paid the price for your sin?
[Read **Isaiah 53:4-6** substituting person's name]

Acts 2:36-47

Power of the Cross

What was the response to their understanding of the Cross?

1. Brokenness
2. Eagerness
3. Lordship
4. Repentance
5. Baptism
6. Rejoicing
7. Devotion

Personal Decisions:

What have you learned about your personal responsibility of Jesus' death on the cross?
How will you accept God's grace through Jesus' sacrifice?
What is your response to this sacrifice?

One Spirit

Led by the Spirit

John 3:1-8 *Born of Water & Spirit*

What is necessary to enter the Kingdom of God?
At what point is someone born of the spirit? (Ref. Acts 2:36-39 "...be baptized (water)...receive the gift (spirit) of the Holy Spirit...")

John 16:7-15 *Spirit Guides Us*

How does the Spirit work in the world?
How does the Spirit work in believers? ("hears," "speaks," "teaches," "guides")
How does it guide us into "all truth?"

Ephesians 1:13-14 *Guarantee of our Salvation*

What does it mean to be "marked with a seal?"
How does it feel to have a guarantee of inheritance?

1 Corinthians 2:9-16 *Spirit Shows Us God*

How does the Spirit teach us about God?
What is the goal of the Spirit in our lives?

Romans 8:12-15 *Living by the Spirit*

What is our obligation as followers of Christ?
What is the outcome if we live by our sinful nature?
What is the outcome if we live by the Spirit?

Romans 8:26-27 *Spirit Helps Us In Our Weakness*

How does the Spirit help us in our weakness?
How does it motivate you knowing that the Spirit is working in your life?

Personal Decisions:

What is the role of the Spirit in your walk with God?
Decide to be led by the Spirit, and not by your sinful nature.

One Body

The Church

Matthew 16:16-18 *Church is built on Christ*

What principle is the church built on?

Who leads the church? (**Colossians 1:15-18** Jesus is the head of the body)

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 *Church is the body of Christ*

How does the scriptures describe the church?

How does one become a part of the body?

How important is each member of the body?

Ephesians 2:19-21 *Church is the family of God*

How does this scripture describe the church?

What is this family's standard based on?

Ephesians 4:11-13 *Church is organized by God*

Who is the leader of the church?

What are some other biblical roles of leadership?

Why is this leadership also important?

What are the benefits for you?

Hebrews 10:19-25 *Church meets together consistently*

How does God feel about the meetings of the body?

Why is this commitment to fellowship important?

How is this accomplished? (See "one another" passages)

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 *Dating & Marriage in the church*

What does it mean to not be yoked with unbelievers?

Should a disciple date and/or marry a non-disciple?

Acts 2:42-47 *Church worships God*

How does the church worship God?

1. Communion (Ref. Acts 20:7, 1 Corinthians 11:23-28)
2. Contribution (Ref. 1 Corinthians 16:2, 2 Corinthians 9:6-11)
3. Worship (Ref. John 4:24, Matthew 22:35-40)
4. Prayer (Ref. 1 Timothy 2:1)
5. Singing (Ref. Colossians 3:15-17)

Personal Decisions:

How will you be an active member in God's family?

Study the "one another passages" to understand God's expectations for His family.

Appendix A

A Study of Conversion in the Book of Acts

Scripture	Faith	Repentance	Baptism	Forgiveness	Holy Spirit	Church
Acts 2:14-47	Implied vv. 37,41	Stated v. 38	Stated v. 38	Stated v. 38	Stated v. 38	Implied vv. 8-47
Acts 8:9-13	Stated vv. 12,13		Stated vv. 12,13			Implied vv. 8-13
Acts 8:26-39	Implied v. 36		Stated v. 38	Implied v. 39	Implied v. 39	
Acts 9:1-19	Implied vv. 5,17	Implied v. 9	Stated v. 18		Stated v. 17	Implied vv. 17-18
Acts 10:1-11:18	Implied 10:1-8	Stated 11:18	Stated 10:48			Implied 11:17-18
Acts 22:5-16	Implied vv. 8,14-15		Stated v. 16	Stated v. 16		
Acts 16:13-15	Stated vv. 14, 15		Stated v. 15			Implied v. 15
Acts 16:25-34	Stated vv. 31,34		Stated v. 33	Stated v. 31		Implied vv. 31-33
Additional References	John 3:16 Heb. 11:16	Matt. 18:1-3 Luke 13:3,5 Acts 17:30	Mark 16:15-16 John 3:3,5 Gal. 3:26 Col. 2:12 1 Peter 3:21	Isaiah 59:1-2 Romans 6:23 Ephesians 1:7	Rom. 8:9-11 Eph. 1:13-14 Gal. 5:22-23	1 Cor. 12:12-13 Matt. 28:18-20 Mark 16:15-16 John 3:1-7

Into My Life

* For each conversion, ask these questions:

1. What was the person taught?
2. What was the person's response to the message?
3. How long did it take the person to make a decision?
4. What was the person's response after his or her baptism?

* Draw a timeline for the following events in your life:

Birth Today
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Came to faith	Forgiven of sins
Converted	Immersed
Believed	Born again
Received Christ	Repented/Lordship
Prayed Jesus into heart	Joined church
Infant baptized	Holy Spirit baptized
Received Spirit	Saved

* Does my life match what the Bible teaches in the graph on the previous page?