First Baptist 101 Discipleship Class

Lesson #1 - Foundation

Key Thought: It all starts with a good foundation. Every builder knows that the foundation determines the size and strength of the building.

Memory Verse: I Corinthians 3:11 (KJV)

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

I. Our Salvation

A. Sin is the Problem

Sin is a transgression against God's spiritual law. I John 3:4

It is also a failure to do what is right. James 4:17

In simple terms, it is missing God's mark which is perfection.

- 1. All are guilty and incur sin's penalty.
- 2. Romans 3:10,23; Romans 6:23; Romans 5:12
- B. Jesus is the Solution John 14:6
 - 1. God loves us and provided His Son (Jesus) as payment. Romans 5:8; John 3:16; Romans 6:23; Romans 10:9-13
 - 2. Jesus died on the cross to shed His blood which paid for sin. Romans 5:9; I Peter 1:18-19
 - 3. The Gospel is The Good News of Salvation based on the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.

I Corinthians 15:1-4

- 4. To repent means to change our mind and attitude about God and sin. Think in military terms "about face."
 - To believe is a faith and trust in Jesus. It is an acceptance of the free gift.
- 5. Salvation is not of works. Ephesians 2:8-9. You can't work your way or become good enough no amount of
- religious activity can save.

 6. It is a time-place decision and commitment like marriage.

Romans 10:13

7. It is what God wants. II Peter 3:9

II. Our Security

- A. Based on Jesus' Power to Keep John 6:39-40; John 10:28-29
- B. Sealed by the Holy Spirit Ephesians 1:12-14
- C. Eternal means Forever John 6:47; John 3:18,36; I John 5:13; John 5:24
- D. Nothing can Separate Us from the Love of God Romans 8:38-39
- E. God doesn't Change His Mind Romans 11:29
- F. We are His Child John 1:12

III. Our Standing: Who we are In Christ

- A. Satan wins when we forget who we are.
 - 1. We are a child of God. Saved and born again into God's family. Therefore, we have all the rights and privileges of such.
 - 2. We are joint-heirs with Jesus.

Romans 8:16-17; I Peter 1:4
Because God has made us His children. John 1:12
We have full rights to receive His inheritance. What belongs to Jesus will also belong to us.

- 3. We are servants. Ephesians 6:6
 Paul, Timothy, James, Peter, Jude, and John referred to themselves as Servants of Christ.
- 4. We are victors I John 5:4 and overcomers I John 4:4.
 - a. More than conquerors. Romans 8:37
 - b. We win in the end. Revelation 15:2

- 5. We are soldiers. II Timothy 2:3
 - a. We are to fight. II Timothy 4:7; Ephesians 6:12
 - b. We have the armor. Ephesians 6:10-18
- 6. We are Christians which means to be Christ-like. Acts 11:26

Lesson #2 - Family

Key Thought: Family is one of the sweetest words in the English language. When we think of the word family, we think of connection. In this lesson, we are going to focus on the importance of being a part of the church family.

Memory Verse - Hebrews 10:25 (KJV)

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

I. How to Join

- A. By letter from another church of like faith and practice.
- B. By statement. If the church you were a member of is not in existence or not able to be contacted.

C. By baptism.

- 1. What baptism shows:
 - a. Baptism is our first step of obedience after salvation.
 - b. Baptism does not save or take away sin. It is a public declaration that we are saved.
 - c. Baptism is like a wedding ring. It does not make us married, it just shows everyone that we are married.
 - d. Baptism declares that we are not ashamed to be a follower of Jesus.
- 2. Why baptism by immersion?
 - a. That is how Jesus was baptized. Matthew 3:13-17
 - b. The Ethiopian eunuch waited until there was much water to get baptized. Acts 8:36-39
 - c. The word baptize has only one meaning to dip, plunge, or immerse.
 - d. It shows the death of Jesus (going down into the water, the burial of Jesus (under the water), and the resurrection of Jesus (coming out of the water).

- II. How to be Connected.
 - A. Join a Sunday School Class.
 - B. Make an effort to develop friendships.
 - C. Be regular in attendance.
- III. How to Serve
 - A. Understand your gifts, abilities, and desires. Romans 12:3-8
 - B. Be willing to volunteer.
 - C. Don't wait to be asked.
 - D. Look for needs that you can meet.
- IV. How to be a Blessing
 - A. Pray for the leadership and each other.
 - B. Attend faithfully.
 - C. Avoid strife. II Corinthians 12:20
 - D. Give a tithe is 10%. Malachi 3:8-10

Lesson #3 - Formula

Key thought: What does it take to grow in our spiritual journey with Christ?

Memory Verse: I Peter 2:2 (KJV)

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere (pure) milk of the word, that you may grow thereby."

- I. The Importance of Bible Study
 - A. Know the Bible
 - 1. It is inspired.
 - a. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." II Timothy 3:16 (KJV)
 - b. The Bible has God as its author, salvation for its end and truth, without any mixture of error for its matter.
 - 2. Its structure.
 - a. 66 Books
 - 39 Old Testament Books
 - 27 New Testament Books
 - b. Old Testament is the Books of Law (first 5 books), Books of History (Joshua Esther), Books of Wisdom (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, & Song of Solomon), Books of the Prophets (Isaiah Malachi).
 - c. New Testament is The Gospels (first 4 Books of the New Testament), Church History (Acts), Paul's Letters (Books written by Paul), General Letters (written by others), Prophecy (Revelation).

- 3. It must be read.
 - a. 64% of regular church attendees don't read the Bible daily.
 - b. Why read it?
 - It is how God speaks to us.
 - The Holy Spirit works primarily through the Word.
 - It is our offensive weapon against Satan. Ephesians 6:12
 - It is how we know God better.
 - It nourishes our soul.
 - It is how we grow. I Peter 2:2
 - It teaches us how to live. Psalm 119:105
 - It sanctifies us. John 17:17
- B. How to Study the Bible
 - 1. Start in the Book of John.
 - 2. Then study the New Testament.
 - 3. Pray and ask God to enlighten you.
 - 4. Don't worry about what you don't understand, focus on what God does reveal to you.
 - 5. Study the Bible regularly and systematically.
 - 6. Ask questions.
 - 7. Study the Bible with others.
- II. The Imperative of Prayer
 - A. We are instructed to pray without ceasing.
 - I Thessalonians 5:17
 - B. Prayer is us talking to God.
 - C. All relationships break down because of a lack of communication.
 - D. Follow the Model Prayer. Matthew 6:9-13 Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication (ACTS model of prayer)

- E. We have a lot to pray for.
- F. Make a list.
- G. Be regular/consistent.
- III. Instruction to Be a Witness
 - A. Matthew 28:19-20
 - B. Acts 1:8

Key Thought: The end result of discipleship is to make disciples.

- All believers need to be sharing their faith.
- What will it look like for me to be a witness?
- The more we study the Bible and pray, the more it should challenge us to be a witness.

Lesson #4 - Fundamentals

Key Thought: What you believe is important, in the end it will determine how you live.

Memory Verse: II Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

You need to get these fundamental beliefs settled in your mind.

- 1. What the Bible is.
- 2. Who God is.
- 3. Who Jesus is.
- 4. Who the Holy Spirit is.
- 5. Who man is.
- 6. What salvation is.
- 7. What the Second Coming of Jesus is.
- I. What the Bible is
 - A. The Bible was written by men divinely inspired by God. II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:21
 - B. The Bible has God for its author, salvation for its end and truth, without any mixture of error for its matter.
 - C. God used 40 men over 1500 years to write the Bible without one single contradiction and totally inerrant (without one error). All the History & Science is true and trustworthy.
 - D. The Bible is the only source of absolute truth.

II. Who God is

- A. There is only one true and living God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being. He is the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver and Ruler of the Universe.
- B. He is infinite in holiness and all perfection. He is all knowing and all powerful.
- C. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

III. Who Jesus is

- A. Jesus is God in the flesh. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, Mary.
- B. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities. Identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin.
- C. With His substitutionary death on the cross He provided redemption of men from sin.
- D. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body.
- E. He ascended into heaven and is now at the right hand of God making intercession for us.
- F. He is coming again with power and glory.
- G. He is fully God and fully man.

IV. Who the Holy Spirit is

- A. The Holy Spirit is fully divine.
- B. The Holy Spirit inspired men to write scripture. He enables us to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, righteousness, and judgment.
- C. At the moment of salvation, He indwells the believer.
- D. He comforts and empowers the believer.
- E. Through Him we serve, worship, and evangelize.
- F. The Holy Spirit works primarily through the Word of God.

V. Who Man is

- A. Man is the special creation of God, made in His image. He created them, male and female. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation.
- B. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by His Creator with freedom of choice.
- C. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race.
- D. We all inherit a sinful nature. We are sinners by nature, by practice, and by choice. Because of this we are under condemnation and in need of a Saviour.

VI. What Salvation is

- A. Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, it is offered freely to all who accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour.
- B. By the blood of Jesus redemption is made for the believer.
- C. Salvation is by grace through faith.

VII. What the Second Coming is

A. Jesus is coming again.

First in the Rapture when the dead in Christ are raised and those who are alive are caught up to meet Him in the air.

II Thessalonians 4:13-17

- B. The Great Tribulation will follow which is 7 years of God's judgment upon the earth. This is described in the Book of Revelation.
- C. At the end of The Tribulation, Jesus comes with His Saints in the Revelation for all to see.
- D. He will set up His Kingdom (which is a 1,000 year reign of Christ with the Saints).
- E. New Heaven & New Earth