

PART 1 - OUR MESSAGE

THE BASIS FOR THIS CLASS:

... You are a member of God's very own family ...and you _____ in God's household with every other Christian. Eph. 2:19

Key Truths:

1. The church is a _____.
2. God's expects you to be a _____ of a church family.
3. A Christian without a church family is an _____.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

Also see *The Baptist Faith and Message 2000*: bfm.sbc.net

1. We believe that the _____ is the divinely inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of the Living God, totally without _____ in its original manuscripts. It is a perfect guide for our lives and the final authority in all things.
2. We believe that God is a _____ – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – and that these three are one.
3. We believe that _____ is by the grace of God alone, that men are saved by grace through faith in the sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
4. We believe Jesus was born of a virgin, lived a _____ life, died on the cross of Calvary, was buried, rose again, is coming again to get all who are truly saved, and *so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

5. We believe that real salvation can never be _____.
6. A true believer through sin in his life can lose _____ with God, but not a relationship with God.

SALVATION

Salvation is a matter of entrusting ourselves to God's grace by faith in His Son Jesus Christ. It is by this grace that we can have a living and active personal relationship with the Lord Jesus, King of all Kings and Lord of all Lords.

For whoever will call upon the Name of the Lord will be saved.

Romans 10:13

1. _____ THAT GOD HAS NOT BEEN FIRST PLACE IN YOUR LIFE AND ASK HIM TO FORGIVE YOUR SINS.

ROM 3:23, *For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.*

2. _____ THAT JESUS DIED TO PAY FOR YOUR SINS AND THAT HE ROSE AGAIN, AND IS ALIVE TODAY.

ROM 10:9-10, *If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.*

ACTS 4:12, *Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name (Jesus) by which we must be saved.*

3. _____ GOD'S FREE GIFT OF SALVATION. DON'T TRY TO EARN IT.

For it is by grace you are saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

Our relationship to God is not restored by anything we do, but on the basis of what Jesus already did for us!

4. _____ JESUS CHRIST TO COME INTO YOUR LIFE AND BE THE "LORD" (BOSS) OF YOUR LIFE.

***John 1:12-13** To all who receive Him, He gives the right to become children of God. All we need to do is to trust Him to save us. All those who believe this are reborn! ... not a physical rebirth ... but from the will of God.*

YOU CAN TAKE THESE STEPS BY PRAYING A SIMPLE PRAYER OF COMMITMENT TO GOD. IT MIGHT BE SOMETHING LIKE THIS ...

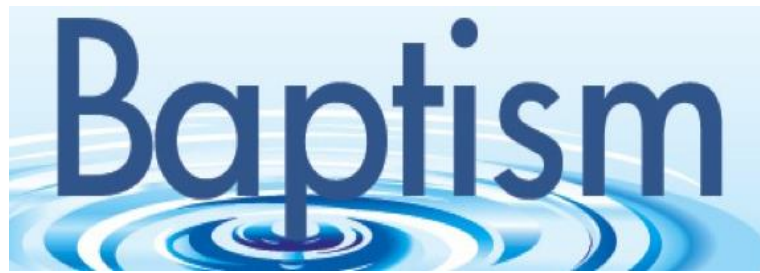
Dear Jesus, thank you for making me and loving me, even when I've ignored you and gone my own way. I realize I need you in my life and I'm sorry for my sins. I ask you to forgive me. Thank you for dying on the cross for me. Please help me to understand it more. As much as I know how, I want to follow you from now on. Please come into my life and make me a new person inside. I accept your gift of salvation. Please help me to grow now as a Christian with you as my Lord and King, all for YOUR glory and renown.

**** _____ will ever separate you from God's love once you make Him your Lord!**

ROM 8:35-39, *Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? 36 (As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") 37 No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. 38 And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. 39 No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

THE ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

Jesus instructed the church to remember His death and resurrection through two visible symbols – Baptism and The Lord's Supper.



1. TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE SET BY _____.

*At that time Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized by John in the river. **Mark 1:9***

2. BECAUSE CHRIST _____ IT.

*Jesus said, "Go then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples, baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit..., **Matthew 28:19-20***

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM?

1. IT ILLUSTRATES JESUS' _____ AND RESURRECTION.

Christ died for our sin ...He was buried ... and He rose again.

1 Cor. 15:3-4

For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ. Col. 2:12

2. IT ILLUSTRATES MY _____ AS A CHRISTIAN.

By our baptism then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead ...so also we may live a new life. Rom. 6:4

Baptism doesn't make you a believer, it demonstrates that you already believe. Baptism does not "save" you. You are "saved" only by your faith in Jesus.

Baptism is like a _____ it's the outward symbol of the commitment you make in your heart.

Wearing a wedding ring does not make you married, but does indicate that you are. Likewise, baptism does not save you, but it does _____ you as being saved.

Baptism is the first step of
OBEDIENCE _____
salvation that every believer should
take.

WHAT IS THE METHOD OF BAPTISM?

1. EVERY BAPTISM IN THE NEW TESTAMENT WAS BY _____.

"and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized them. When they came up out of the water..." [Acts 8:38-39](#)

2. THE WORD BAPTIZE MEANS *TO IMMERSE; TO GO* _____ *WATER*.
The Greek word *baptizo* means "to immerse or dip under water."

3. BECAUSE _____ WAS BAPTIZED THIS WAY.

"After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water..." [Matthew 3:16](#)

4. IT BEST SYMBOLIZES A _____ AND **RESURRECTION**.



While baptism is a one-time experience, Jesus gave us another action that is intended to continue throughout the life of the Christian. It's called the Lord's Supper, and it's a powerful way for Christians to remember and celebrate what God did for us in the life of Jesus.

1. IT IS A _____.

... and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; eat it in remembrance of me.' 1 Cor 11:24

2. IT IS A _____.

In the same way, He took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; drink it to remember me.' 1 Cor 11:25

3. IT IS A _____ OF FAITH.

For whenever you eat the bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes back. 1 Cor 11:26

WHO SHOULD TAKE THE LORD'S SUPPER?

ONLY THOSE WHO ARE ALREADY _____ (see Mark 14:22-26)

For if you eat the bread or drink the cup unworthy, not honoring the body of Christ, you are eating and drinking God's judgment upon yourself. 1 Cor. 11:29

HOW DO I PREPARE MYSELF FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER?

Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A person ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. 1 Cor. 11:27-28

You prepare yourself by ...

1. _____-EXAMINATION 1 Cor. 11:27

2. _____ OF SINS

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

3. _____ TO HIS LORDSHIP

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God -- this is your spiritual act of worship. Rom. 12:1

4. RESTORING _____

Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. Matt. 5:23-24

***We observe the Lord's Supper several times throughout the year. Our Christmas Carol and Communion Service is a highlight each CHRISTmas season.**

***We invite all born-again Christians to join in the Lord's Supper, not just those who are members of our church.**