

BELIEVERS SCHOOL OF MINISTRY
BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR FAITH

The purpose of this teaching is to build a strong foundation for faith from the Word of God so that we can be secure and confident in our faith and able to present a strong witness for Christ.

“If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?” Psalms 11:3, KJV.

Four foundations we will be talking about:

1. The foundation of Jesus Christ
2. The foundation of hearing and doing the word of God
3. The foundation of the apostles in the early church
4. The foundation of the doctrines of Christ

JESUS THE ROCK

The church is built on the revelation of Jesus Christ. Matthew 16:13-18

No other foundation can be laid. 1 Corinthians 3:11

He is the stone rejected by the elders and the only name by which we can be saved. Acts 4:11-12

He is a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation, your stability. Isaiah 28:16

The Lord is my rock and my defense, I will not be moved. Psalm 62:2

He who trusts in his own heart is a fool. Proverbs 28:26

We are not to trust in our own righteousness. Luke 18:9-14

THE FOUNDATION OF HEARING AND DOING THE WORD OF GOD

If you hear His Word and practice it, you will build your house on the rock. Matthew 7:21-27

The Lord calls us to depart from iniquity (sinfulness) and He knows if we truly belong to Him. 2 Timothy 2:19

By confessing God's Word, we can build confidence. He has said, so that we may say. Hebrews 13:5-6, Joshua 1:8-9

Don't cast away your confidence. Hebrews 10:35-36

Spend time in God's Word every day. Read it, study it, meditate it, and put it in to practice. Then you will have a strong foundation for daily life.

THE FOUNDATION OF THE APOSTLES IN THE EARLY CHURCH

The Bible speaks of the church being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone. Ephesians 2:20

The apostle Peter established the foundation. Acts 2:37-42

In verse 38 he says:

- a. Repent
- b. Be baptized every one of you
- c. You shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Then they were baptized and continued steadfastly in:

- a. The Apostles Doctrine (teaching of the word)
- b. Fellowship (sharing in common with other Christians)
- c. Breaking bread (the communion meal)
- d. Prayers (talking to God together and alone)

THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST Hebrews 6:1-3

Laying again (Greek, kataballo—casting down or overthrowing) He is saying to not cast down or overthrow these foundations, but rather build your life on them. These are essentials for a strong Christian life.

1. Repentance from dead works. Mark 1:14-15, Luke 13:3,5, Acts 3:19
2. Faith toward God Ephesians 2:8, Romans 5:1, Romans 10:17, Hebrews 11:1
3. The doctrine of baptisms...

The root of this word means to dip or immerse.

The average person who reads the word “baptism” in the Bible assumes that it means water baptism. But there are three foundational baptisms referred to in the Bible.

1. Baptism (immersion) into the Body of Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:13
2. Baptism (immersion) into water, identifying with Christ in his death, burial and resurrection. Matthew 3:13-15, Mark 16:16, Romans 6:4, Colossians 2:12
3. Baptism (immersion) into the Holy Spirit Matthew 3:11, Acts 1:4-5

4. Laying on of hands.

For healing. Mark 16:18

For the baptism of the Holy Spirit Acts 8:19

For ordination into the ministry. 1 Timothy 5:22

5. The resurrection of the dead. 1 Corinthians 15:51-54, Daniel 12:2, John 5:28-29

6. Eternal judgement.

Judgement after death. No reincarnation. Hebrews 9:28

It's eternal (permanent). Luke 16:26, Mark 9:44,46,48

Let us build upon this foundation, regardless of what man or tradition says, and let us go on to perfection (maturity).

TODAY'S EXERCISE

- Share your story and include His story (the **cross** and the **resurrection**).
- Tell the person about the need for **repentance** and **believing** in Jesus;
- And lead them in a prayer of salvation.

We will practice in class, then begin to step out during the week. We have found that the law of inertia applies to witnessing. If you do nothing, you tend to continue to do nothing. But if you do something, you will continue to do something...and perhaps more. Begin to step out, even if it is quietly leaving a track somewhere. Also, begin to pray for those who are away from Christ in your circle of friends and family. Pray for our Father to draw them, and to send laborers to them. He may send you! Use the area below to list the names of friends and family who need Jesus in their lives. Begin to pray for them.

HOMEWORK

1. Look for at least one salvation scripture that you could use in a conversation with a pre-Christian to tell them about what Jesus means in your life. Mediate upon that scripture until you are comfortable using it in a conversation.
2. Look up the scriptures in this lesson in your Bible and think about them.