Foundations

Participant Guide

Session 9: What are some additional essential topics (Part2)?

We have learned that God is knowable and wants to be known. Because of sin, humanity cannot approach God and needs a Mediator to have access to God. Through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, humanity can have a right relationship with God. The promise of the Father, the Holy Spirit, helps believers to live the Christian life. The primary way God communicates with His followers is through the Bible. The Bible is a collection of history, poetry, prophesy, and letters, providing instruction and guidance for Christian living. The Bible is absolutely trustworthy, with strong evidence supporting its reliability.

As believers began to meet together, the Church was born. The Church refers to all believers across the world and throughout history who have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The local church is an assembly of believers who meet together "in order to stir up love and good works."

Different denominations show the diversity of the expression of worship but should not cause divisions among believers. Although the Bible does not present a specific form, there are different types of church government.

Acts 2:42 provides four activities of the early church that continue to be key activities of a healthy church today. The four activities are regular Bible teaching, regular fellowship, participation in the Lord's supper and prayer. We studied communion and prayer in our last session. Are there other key essential topics important for spiritual growth?

By the end of this session, you should be able to:

- Explain the importance of baptism
- Identify ways to serve the Lord
- Explain the importance of giving
- Explain the importance of being a witness

Please answer the following questions.

1. What do you learn about baptism from the following verses?

Matthew 3:16

Matthew 28:18-20

Acts 8:35-39

2. What do you learn about serving from the following verses?

Matthew 5:16

John 13:1-17

1 Corinthians 12:12-18

Galatians 5:13

3. What are some practical ways a Christian can serve?

4. What do you learn from the following verses about giving?

2 Corinthians 9:7

1 Corinthians 16:2

5. Read John 4. Who did the Samaritan woman influence? Why do you think the other Samaritans were influenced by her?

6. Based on the class session, notes, and your personal study, what has encouraged or challenged you from this session?