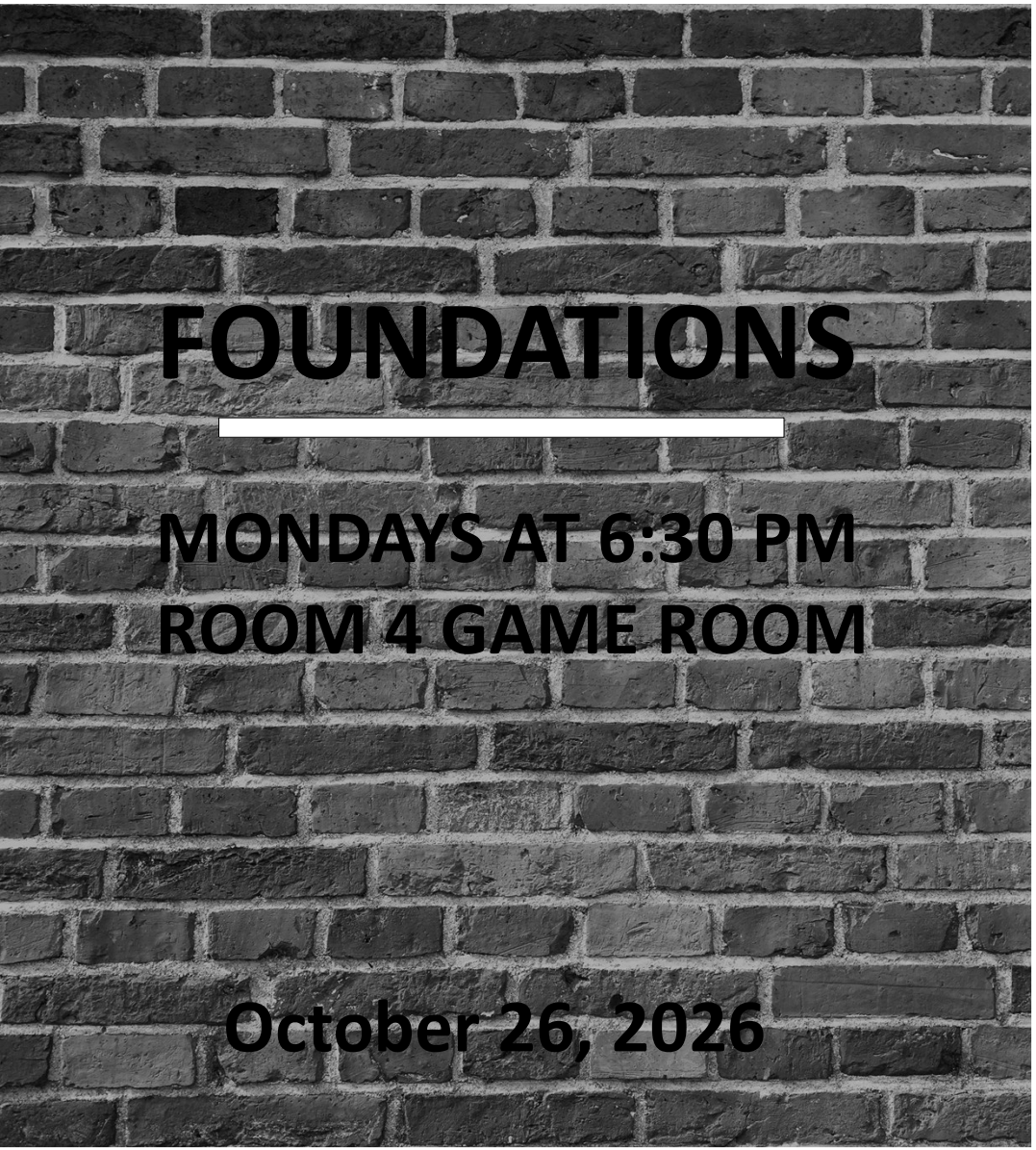

Session 7: What is the Church?

Session Questions

Session 7 Questions:

- What is the Church?
- Why is the Church important?
- What does a healthy church look like?

Question Review

- Review answers from Participant Guide Session 7: What is the Church?

Section 1: What is the Church?

What does the Bible say about the Church?

- **Body of Christ**
  - 1 Corinthians 12:12, 27
- **Bride of Christ**
  - Ephesians 5:25, 32
  - Revelation 19:7-8
- **A building**
  - Ephesians 2:20-21
  - 1 Corinthians 3:9
- **Head of the Church**
  - Colossians 1:18
  - Ephesians 5:23

Section 1: What is the Church?

The main mission of the Church is to make disciples

- **Matthew 28:19-20**
  - Go -> Baptize -> Teach
- **Acts 1:8**
  - Being witnesses
- **Ephesians 4:11-13**
  - Edifying the body of Christ is making disciples

Section 1: What is the Church?

Is it a group? A building? An organization?

- The Church refers to all believers across the world and throughout history
- The Church can refer to a local assembly of believers
  - Universal but local
  - Invisible but visible
- Accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is required to be a part of the Church

Section 2: Why is the Church important?

What does the Bible say about the Church?

- **Divinely instituted**
  - Ephesians 2:20-21
- **Demonstrates the love of God**
  - John 13:34-35
- **Demonstrates unity in Christ**
  - Galatians 3:28
- **A picture of mutual submission**
  - Philippians 2:4

Section 2: Why is the Church important?

Why are there so many denominations?

- We can have diversity of expression in worship.
- Division among believers is not acceptable.
  - Divisions indicate immaturity – 1 Corinthians 3:3-4
  - Seek peace with other believers – Romans 14:19

Section 2: Why is the Church important?

What are the different types of church government?

- The form of church government is not an extensive topic in the Bible.
- Governed by a bishop or overseer
  - 1 Timothy 3:1
- Governed by elders
  - Acts 14:23
- Governed by the pure democracy

Section 3: What does a healthy church look like?

What does a healthy church look like?

Acts 2:42 provides key activities of a healthy church

- Apostles' doctrine
- Fellowship
- Breaking bread (Lord's Supper)
- Prayer

Corporately and individually

Section 3: What does a healthy church look like?

Apostles' doctrine

- **Regular Bible teaching is a priority**
  - Acts 17:2
  - 2 Timothy 4:2
- **Our church uses a verse-by-verse teaching style**
  - Acts 20:26-27
- **Individually, regular Bible study should be a priority**
  - Acts 17:11

Section 3: What does a healthy church look like?

Fellowship

- **Regular fellowship is a priority**
  - Acts 20:7
  - Hebrews 10:25
- **Fellowship provides an opportunity to build meaningful lives together**
  - Hebrews 10:24-25
- **Individually, fellowship should be a priority**
  - 1 Corinthians 14:26

Section 3: What does a healthy church look like?

Breaking Bread – The Lord's Supper

- **The Lord's Supper is a priority**
  - Matthew 26:26-30
  - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
- **More in Session 8**

Prayer

- **Prayer is a priority**
  - John 17:20
  - Ephesians 1:16
- **More in Session 8**

Section 3: What does a healthy church look like?

What is the mission of our church?

- **Learn**
  - Studying the Bible – Acts 2:42, 2 Timothy 4:2
- **Love**
  - Loving God and loving each other – John 13:34-35
- **Grow**
  - Becoming more like Jesus by applying the Bible to our lives – Ephesians 4:15
- **Go**
  - Giving our lives away as servants like Jesus did – Matthew 28:19-20

Session Wrap Up Question

Based on the discussion, notes and your personal study, what have you learned from this session?

Reflections & Wrap Up

- The Church is all believers who have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord across the world and through history.
- The Church demonstrates the love of Christ to the world.
- The key activities of the Church are Bible teaching, fellowship, Lord's Supper, and prayer.

Next session is **Monday, November 2 at 6:30 PM** in Room 4.

Questions for next session:

- **Sessions 8: What are some additional essential topics (Part 1)**

Thank you!