

# How to Know Christ Is in Your Life

Circle the percentage that best describes where you are at this time of your life.

	% of the time				
	none	part	half	most	all
<b>I am confident I am a Christian:</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>I will go to heaven when I die:</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>I know Christ is in my life now:</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>100%</b>



**I invited Christ into my life on:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

When you invited Christ into your life these *five* things happened to you:

**1. Christ has indeed come into your life**

Read Revelation 3:20 What does the door represent? Did you open that door of your life?  
Where is Christ right now in relation to you?

**2. You have been reborn as a whole new creation**

What does being born again meaning John 3:1-8? \_\_\_\_\_

Three dimensions to man.

**body** - physical dimension

**mind** - mental dimension

**spirit** - spiritual dimension **only** comes to  
life when we believe in Christ

**3. All your sins - past, present, and future have been forgiven**

Isaiah 1:18 - How does God respond to our sins now that we've believed in Christ?  
Hebrews 10:11-14 How many of our sins did Christ die for on the cross?

**4. A new relationship has been established between you and God**

How does Romans 5:6-8 describe what we were like before we knew God?  
What are we like now that we know God? \_\_\_\_\_

**5. God will never leave you**

Read John 10:27-28 How secure are we in Jesus' hand? \_\_\_\_\_

How secure are we in God's hand? \_\_\_\_\_

*Father - Son relationship*

Can you think of anything more wonderful that could happen to you than receiving Christ?

Would you like to thank God in prayer right now for what He has done for you?

By thanking God, you demonstrate your faith.

**The Basics** #1

by Steve Huerd

<http://www.svtwincities.org/basics>

# The Way We Were vs The Way We Are!

## Our condition before we received Christ

### 1. A condemned sinner

Read Romans 3:23

How would you define sin? \_\_\_\_\_

How does this verse describe our former state?

\_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Separated from God

Isaiah 59:2

How have our sins affected our relationship with God?

### 3. Headed for Hell

Revelation 20:11-15 What does the Book of Life have to do with people's destinies?

### 4. Unable to please God

Isaiah 64:6 How does this verse describe a non-Christians' best efforts to please God? Are we born good or evil?



## Our condition after we received Christ

### 1. You were declared righteous in the eyes of God

Hebrews 10:12-14 What did Christ's sacrifice do for us?

*Judge Illustration*

### 2. You were redeemed from the hand of the enemy

Colossians 1:13-14 What does redeemed or redemption mean?

*Story of boy with toy boat*

### 3. You received eternal life

I John 5:11-12 If you have Jesus then what else do you have?

*Dollar in book illustration*

### 4. God loves you as a son or daughter

Romans 8:15-17 Now that we have received Christ into our lives, how does God view us? What does it mean to be an heir? What could we possibly inherit?



# So Nobody's Perfect

Decide if the following statements are true or false (T or F):

- A. \_\_\_ Some sins are worse than others.  
B. \_\_\_ Sins in the mind are not as bad as actually doing them.  
C. \_\_\_ Since God forgives sins, they really aren't that big a deal
- D. \_\_\_ If a sin doesn't hurt anyone, it's not really a sin.  
E. \_\_\_ Christians do not sin on purpose.  
F. \_\_\_ Eventually we will always pay for our sins.  
G. \_\_\_ Sin is different for different people.

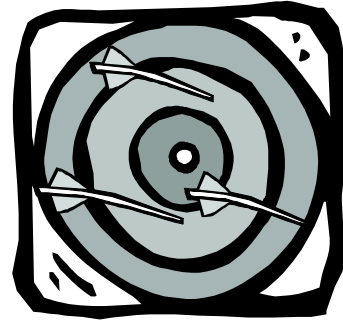
## DEFINING SIN

How does the Bible describe sin in Romans 3:23?

How is missing the mark like being human?

*Definition: Sin is choosing to go our own way independent of God.  
We can do this either in our actions or in our attitudes.*

Give an example of an attitude that is sin:



## THE SOURCE OF OUR SIN

The first person who ever sinned was Adam and Eve. Read about their story in Genesis 3:1-19.

What did Adam and Eve decide to do, obey God or disobey God?

*President Analogy*

The first person ever created made a decision about sin or obeying God that has affected everyone else born after him. Adam was the federal head of the human race. He is our first forefather. Just as we inherit characteristics such as intellect, coloring, body size, athletic ability, etc. from our parents, mankind inherited its fallen, corrupt nature from Adam.

## THE EXTENT OF OUR SIN

The Bible describes this corrupt nature from God's point of view in Psalm 53:1-3

How does the Psalmist describe our fallen condition in this passage?

How deep does sin go in us?

Matthew 15:19-20 \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 6:45 \_\_\_\_\_

Sin goes into our innermost beings. It is human nature to love sin and hate God.

Look in today's newspaper and see if you can find evidence of man's corrupt sinful nature.

## THE CONSEQUENCES OF OUR SIN

Because Adam failed the test in the garden of Eden, he brought death to all humanity that followed him.

How does Romans 5:12 describe what happened?

What are the consequences of our sin in Romans 6:23?

The Bible describes this death as having three parts:

1. Immediate **spiritual** death (separation from God)
2. The beginning of **physical** death (the minute we are born, we begin to die)
3. Ultimate **eternal** death (Hell)

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# Experiencing God's Love and Forgiveness

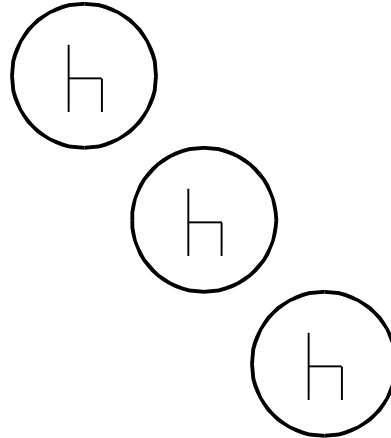
*Biblical Basis: 1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3*

## Three types of people:

1. Natural Man

2. Spiritual Man

3. Carnal Man



## Spiritual Breathing - like physical breathing

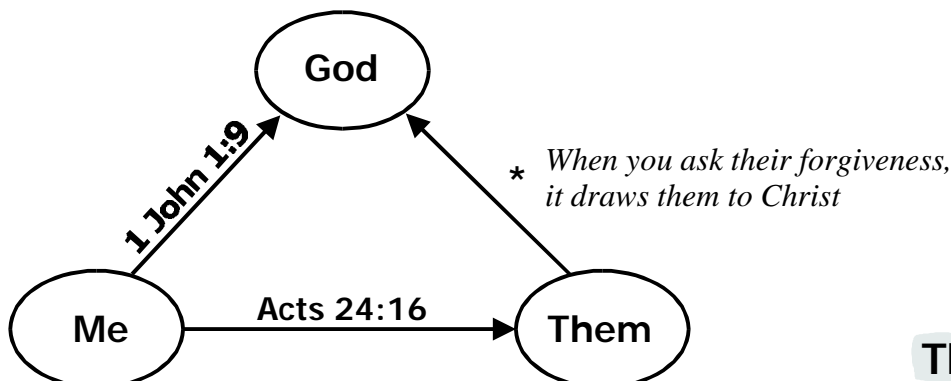
*Exhale* - Confess your sins. 1 John 1:9 The word "confess" means to agree with God that you have sinned.

*Inhale* - Surrender the control of your life to Christ, and receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit by faith. Trust that He now directs and empowers you. (See Lesson 5 and 6 for more details.)

## 5 steps to confession

- A. Pray and ask God to reveal sin
- B. Make a list of those sins
- C. Confess each one individually
- D. Write "1 John 1:9" across the list and tear it up
- E. Restitution - asking other people's forgiveness whom you have offended

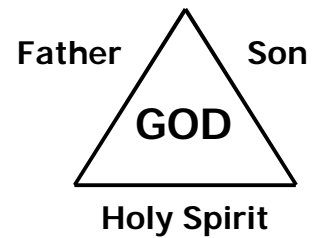
## Triangle Diagram



# The Holy Spirit? What Does He Do?

## Who is He?

The Holy Spirit is part of what is called the trinity. The trinity is a man-made name for the three identities or persons by which God expresses Himself in the Bible. Sometimes God speaks as the Father, the Son (Jesus) or the Holy Spirit (The Spirit of God). *[See Diagram]* Though we as human beings cannot fully understand this mystery, it is important to know that the Holy Spirit is equal with God even though His role and function are different.



## When did you receive the Holy Spirit?

When a person accepts Christ into their lives, the Holy Spirit comes to live within them. How is this explained in Ephesians 1:13-14?

## What does the Holy Spirit do in your life?

Read each verse and write a short description of what the Holy Spirit does in believers' lives:

John 16:13-14

Galatians 5:22-23

Acts 1:8

John 14:26

## What does the Holy Spirit do in non-Christian lives?

Describes how God's Spirit also works in non-Christians' lives in John 16:8-11?

## How important is our relationship with the Holy Spirit?

Many Christians try to live the Christian life on their own and as a result end up feeling disappointed. They think they have to be a good person or do certain things so that God will be pleased with them. However God's Spirit doesn't work that way.

## Vine and Branches

Read John 15:4-5 about how we should relate with God

According to Jesus, who is the vine?

Who is the branch?

What do you think it means to remain or abide in Christ?

Can the branch produce any fruit on it's own?

How then should we live our lives as Christians?

What are some areas of your life which you believe God wants you to trust Him in?



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# Living Like a Christian

## The way it's supposed to be...

God desires all of us to live an abundant and fruitful Christian life. Why does Jesus say He came to earth in John 10:10?

Do you think most Christians live this type of life? Why or why not?

## The way it can be...

Many Christians try to live their Christian life on their own efforts. However it's *impossible* because they are trying to live their life by the flesh or the old nature. Our old nature is not capable of living the lifestyle that God wants us to live.

How does Paul describe old nature within him in Romans 7:18-19?

What kinds of things do people engage in who "live according to the flesh" in Galatians 5:16-18?

## The way it should be...

In order to live a victorious, fruitful Christian life, you have to allow the Holy Spirit to live through you. In order to have this happen, four things must take place:

### 1. We must confess our sin (spiritually exhale)

Will God hear our prayers to Him if we cherish sin in our hearts? (Read Psalm 66:18)

### 2. We must ask God to fill us with His Holy Spirit (spiritually inhale)

What does God command all Christians to do in Ephesians 5:18?

To be "filled" with the Holy Spirit means to be controlled or empowered by the Holy Spirit.

### 3. We must claim the Spirit-controlled life

Is it God's will that we are filled with His Holy Spirit?

What happens when we pray according to God's will? (See I John 5:14-15)

### 4. We must surrender every area of our life to the Spirit's control.

What are we urged to do in Romans 12:1?

Why is it important to give God control of every area of your life?



## How are you filled with the Holy Spirit?

The following is a suggested prayer to be filled with the Holy Spirit:

*"Dear Father, I need you. I acknowledge that I have been directing my own life and that, as a result, I have sinned against You. I thank you that you have forgiven my sins through Christ's death on the cross for me. I now invite Christ to again take His place on the throne of my life. Fill me with the Holy Spirit as you commanded me to be filled, and as you promised in your word that you would do if I ask You in faith. I pray this in the name of Jesus."*

Could you pray this prayer right now to God in your heart and really mean it? If so bow in prayer and trust God to fill you with the Holy Spirit right now.

## How do you know you are filled?

Many times people get confused about the filling of the Holy Spirit because they look for some type of sign or feeling from God. However while the Bible sometimes does say great things happen when people are filled with the Holy Spirit, it asks us to walk in faith and trust God with the results (see *Hebrews 11:6*). Therefore, we should not be dependent upon feelings or signs to know we are under the Spirit's control but rather believe God and His Word by faith.

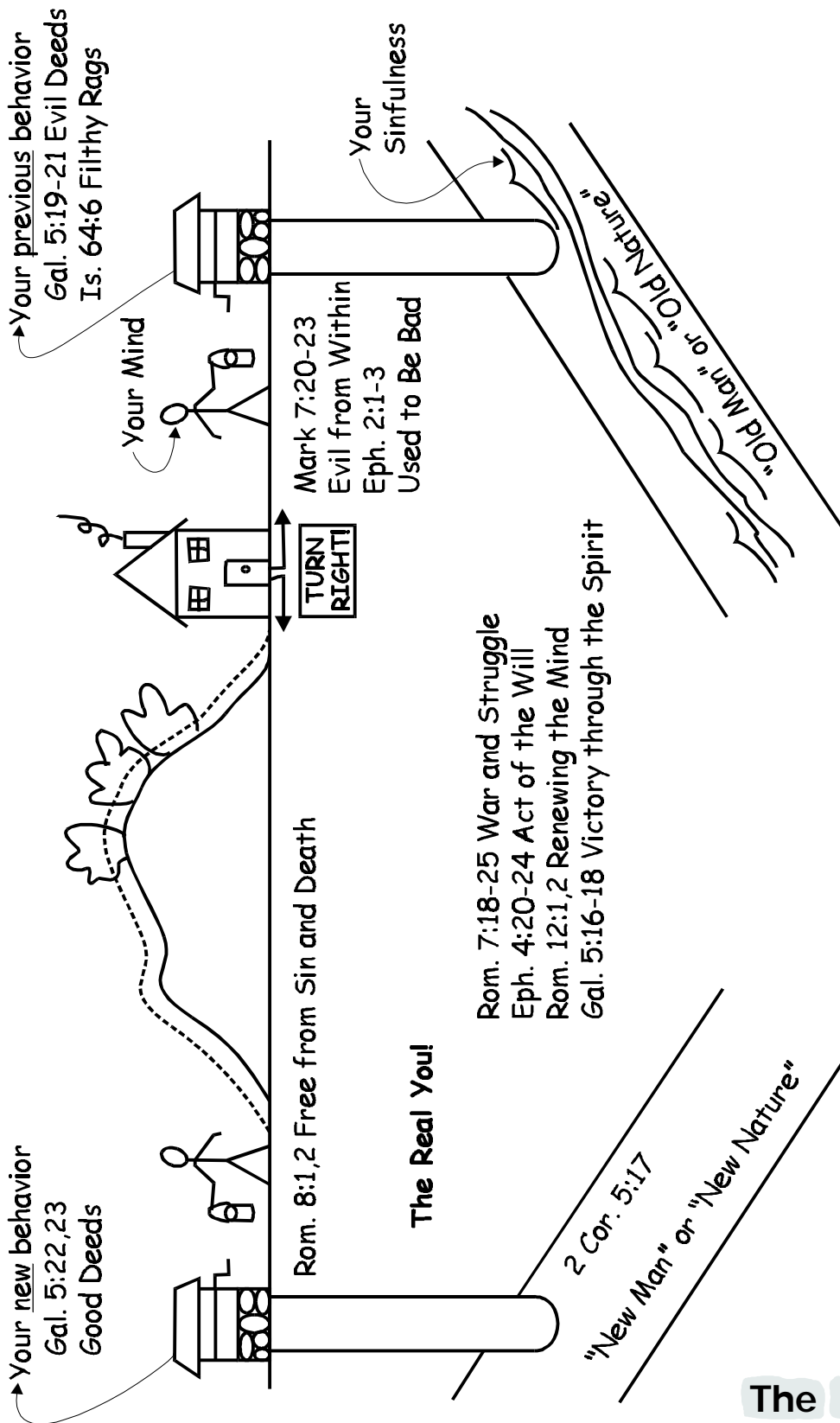
How many times do you think a person needs to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

The Basics #6

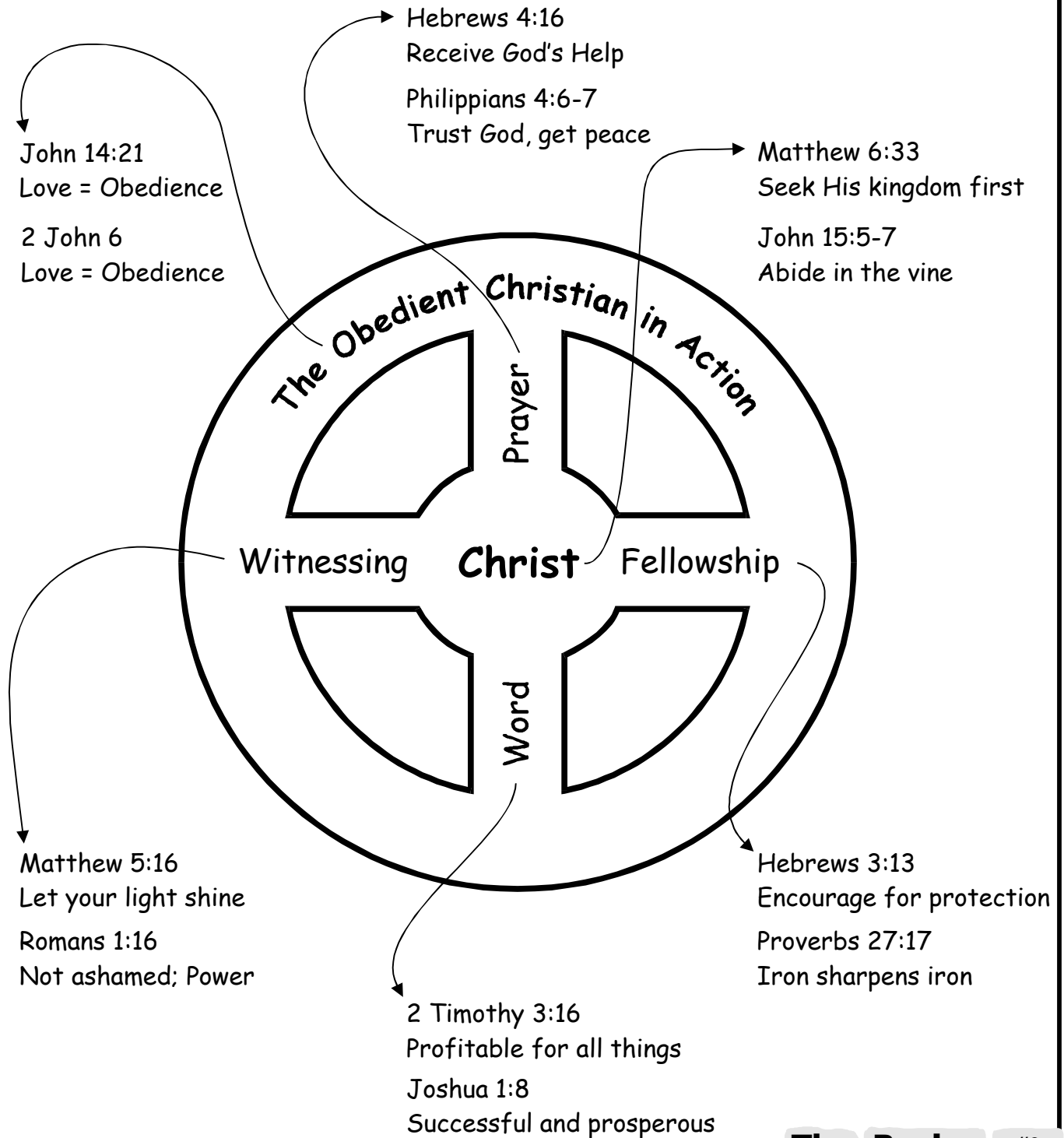
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# Your Identity in Christ



# The Wheel Illustration



# Growing as a Christian

There are three very important factors which influence your spiritual growth. Spiritual growth is just like physical growth in many ways. Spiritual growth takes time, is enhanced by going through difficult times, and is sovereignly directed by God.

## The TIME Factor

### 1. God takes His time

Whenever God wants to do something important, time is always a big factor.

Three examples of God taking His time

- a. **Jesus** - Luke 3:23 How long did God wait until he let Jesus begin his public ministry?  
Why do you think he waited so long? (See Hebrews 5:8)
- b. **Moses** - Acts 7:23-34 How long did Moses grow up in Pharaoh's household? (See verse 23)  
How long did Moses stay in the desert land of Midian? (See verse 30)  
Why do you think God took so long to bring Moses back to free His people?
- c. **Paul** - Galatians 1:15-2:1 How long did Paul wait until he finally launched his public ministry?  
(Add up the number of years mentioned in verses 1:18 and 2:1)  
Why do you think God waited so long to send Paul off as a missionary?

### 2. Quality requires Time

"It takes a hundred years to make a decent oak tree, but only three months to make a squash."

### 3. Complexity requires Time

- Mouse - full grown after three months
  - Dog - full grown after a couple of years
  - Human - takes 16-20 years (longer than any animal on earth)
- Why does it take longer for humans to mature?

### 4. There are no shortcuts - both physical and spiritual growth take time



## The HARD TIMES Factor

Have you ever had a coach that really pushed you hard in practice?

Why do you think he made you do all of those things?

1 Cor. 9:24-27 describes a race of life that we are all in.

What do those who compete in the race have to do to win?

Why does God, our heavenly coach, put us through hard times? (See Hebrews 12:5-11)

## The SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD Factor

### 1. God is always in control

Does God allow us to experience temptations that are too great for us? (See 1 Cor. 10:13)

What end does God have in mind in a Christian's life? (See Romans 8:28)

Even though some tough times are in God's training program for us, they have all been screened by God and are beneficial to us.

### 2. God knows what He is doing even if we do not understand

*Dentist illustration*

Because God is loving and has our best in mind, we can have confidence in His abilities to work on us.

How does the Bible compare our ways to God's ways in Isaiah 55:8-9?

Even though we don't always understand what God is doing, yet because of His character we can trust Him even in difficult times.

The Basics #9

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# Just the Facts, Please!

**What do you think? A=Agree D=Disagree**

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ The Bible is a book of rules. F. \_\_\_\_\_ Men wrote the Bible and not God.  
B. \_\_\_\_\_ Science has not proved the Bible out of date. G. \_\_\_\_\_ The Bible has answers to everyone's problems.  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ The Bible contains contradictions. H. \_\_\_\_\_ The main theme of the Bible is Jesus Christ and salvation.  
D. \_\_\_\_\_ The Old Testament doesn't apply to today's world. I. \_\_\_\_\_ The Bible proves there is a God.  
E. \_\_\_\_\_ Any translation of the Bible is acceptable. J. \_\_\_\_\_ Always interpret the Bible literally.

## What is it exactly?

The Bible is a story of God intervening in human history.

1. Divided into two sections:

### Old Testament

- Old Covenant
- Written before Christ
- 39 Books

### New Testament

- New Covenant
- Written after Christ
- 27 Books



2. Through many events, books, and people, the Bible tells one story - GOD REVEALING HIMSELF TO MAN.

## Who wrote it?

1. Written over a 1,500 year span
2. Written over 40 generations
3. Written by over 40 authors from every walk of life including kings, statesman, scholars, etc.
4. Written on three continents: Asia, Africa, and Europe
5. Written in three languages:

*Hebrew - Old Testament*

*Aramaic - portion of Old Testament*

*Greek - New Testament*

6. Published in more languages and read by more people than any other book.

## Why should I read it?

1. Because it is the revealed Word of God (1 Peter 1:21)
2. To Grow Spiritually (2 Peter 2:2)
3. To stay on track in your relationship with God (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
4. To make myself prosperous and successful (Joshua 1:8)

## Where should I start reading?

For how God created the world - Genesis

For the life of Jesus - John

For wisdom about life in general - Proverbs

## When will you begin to read the Bible?

What time is best for you to read the Bible?

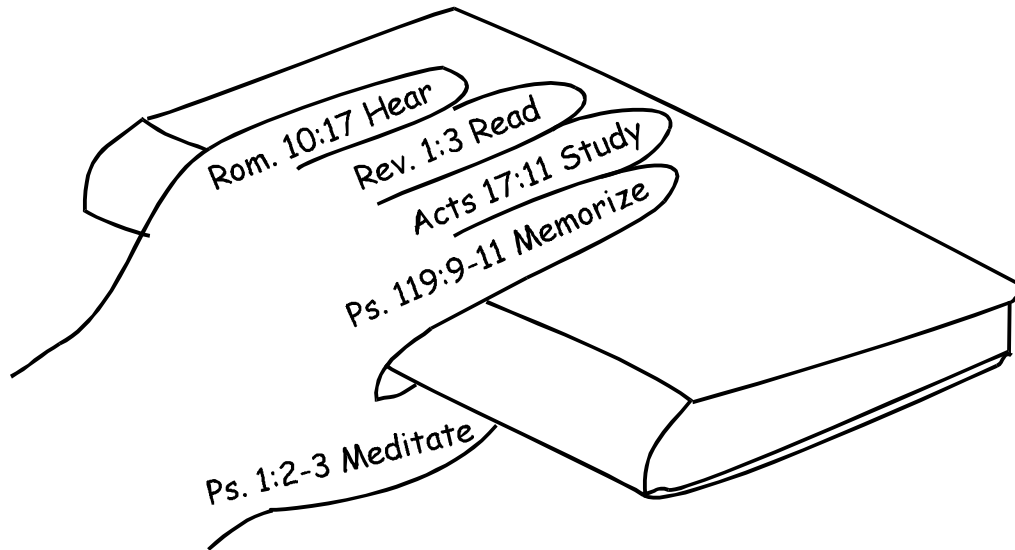
Do you think everybody should read the Bible the same way?

**The Basics #10**

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# Using the Word Hand Illustration



As you can see, there are five ways to get a firm grasp on God's Word: hearing, reading, studying, memorizing, and meditating. Trace your hand outline on your sheet of paper and draw a Bible in your hand's grasp. Then, label each finger appropriately. Go through the fingers one by one and look up the Scripture verse that back up each method of grasping God's Word. Then explain that, if we want to get a strong grip on an object, we use all our fingers. If we try to hold on with only two or three fingers, the object is easily grabbed away (demonstrate this as you talk about it). In the same way, we should use each of these methods of biblical intake if we want to get a firm grasp on the Word of God. We need to hear, read, study, and memorize it.

Then, just as our thumb opposes ( and can easily touch) each of our fingers, meditation should touch each of the other activities: We should meditate on what we hear, meditate on what we read, meditate on what we study, and meditate on what we memorize. It does little good if God's Word goes in one ear and out the other. We need to let it sink down into our hearts through meditation.

You'll notice that, in the illustration, the bigger the finger, the harder its corresponding activity is. It's easier to listen than to read, easier to read than study, etc. However, it's also true that the bigger the finger, the more effective the activity is. Experts tell us that after a 24-hour period, we can recall only about 5 percent of what we hear, 15 percent of what we read, 35 percent of what we study, and 100 percent of what we memorize. Since this is true, we would be wise to give special attention to the more effective activities.

Then Ask:

- How firm of a grasp do you personally have on God's Word?
- What are some ways to meditate on what you hear, read, study, and memorize?

As a group, pick a passage of scripture to study or memorize.

**The Basics** #11

by Steve Huerd

# Fellowship Time with Christians

*Definition: A building up, encouraging, and equipping of the body of Christ by the body of Christ.*

## **The importance of love in fellowship.**

What are the two greatest commandments in the Christian life? (Matt 22-37-40)

What does Jesus say the mark of a true disciple should be? (John 13:34,35)

Are we capable of loving like that? (1 John 4:7,8)

## **Why should we fellowship?**

Match the following verses with their corresponding fellowship characteristics:

### **Bible Verse**

### **Fellowship Characteristic**

Hebrews 3:13

As parts of Christ's body, we all need each other and help each other

Proverbs 27:17

Christ promises to be there in a special way

Matthew 18:20

Keeps us from being hardened by sin

1 Corinthians 12:12-26

Sharpens each other

How is Christian fellowship like being part of a physical body?

## **What we do in fellowship?**

What did the apostles do in their fellowship? (Acts 2:42)

According to Hebrews 10:24-25 how often should we encourage one another?

According to Ephesians 4:15, 16 how are we to grow up in Christ?

What does it mean to "speak the truth in love"? Can you speak the truth without doing it in love?

## **Questions to consider...**

Does spending time with other Christians guarantee that we will have good fellowship?

How does going to church fit into fellowshiping with other Christians?

Does fellowship have to take place in a formal setting like church, Bible study or a conference?

Where are you experiencing true fellowship right now in your life?

**The Basics** #12

by Steve Huerd

<http://www.svtwincities.org/basics>

# Prayer - Talking with God

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 on the scales below by placing an X on the place best describing what you believe about prayer.

<i>God answers my prayers...</i>									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Never				Sometimes		Always			
<i>I pray...</i>									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Never				Sometimes		Always			
<i>Praying for me, is easy...</i>									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Never				Sometimes		Always			

John knew that he had been driving too fast. How fast he didn't exactly know. When he saw the policeman pull out behind him and start following him, he started to get worried. "God if I ever needed help I need it now. I just got my license and my parents are going to kill me if I get a ticket for speeding. If you get me out of this one, I'll promise not to speed through here again."

Is it fair of John to ask God to help him?

Why should God answer John's prayer?

Would you answer the prayer if you were God?

## How should we pray?

There are four types of prayers recorded in the Bible. They spell the acrostic **ACTS**.

<b>A</b> doration - praising God for who He is	1 Timothy 1:7
<b>C</b> onfession - admitting our sins before God	Psalm 32
<b>T</b> hanksgiving - giving thanks for all things	1 Thessalonians 5:18
<b>S</b> upplication - making requests of God	Philippians 4:6-7

## When should we pray?

Ephesians 6:18 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Thessalonians 5:17 \_\_\_\_\_

## What should we expect from God?

God answers our prayer one of three ways: *yes, no, or wait*.

**YES** - HANNAH'S PRAYER FOR A SON (1 Samuel 1:11, 19,20)

**NO** - DAVID'S PRAYER FOR GOD TO SAVE HIS SON (2 Samuel 12:15-18)

**WAIT** - ABRAHAM'S REQUEST FOR A SON (Genesis 15:2-5)

The kind of prayer God always answers everytime, is prayer that is...

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 5:14,15).

What can you pray right now for yourself or others that is according to God's will?

**The Basics #13**

by Steve Huerd

<http://www.svtwincities.org/basics>

# Tell It Like This!

## Three Questions to Consider...

1. What is the most important thing that has ever happened to you?
2. What then is the most important thing you can do to help another?
3. What does it mean to witness?



Most of my friends at school are not interested in hearing about Jesus Christ. (Check one)  True  False

## Why should I share my faith and tell others about Christ?

1. Because it's the only way people will come to know Christ.

Why does Paul say it is important to talk to people about Christ in Romans 10:13,14?

2. Because Christ has changed our lives and we want to pass that onto others.

What was the message so important to the Apostle Paul that he wanted to share with others in 1 Cor. 15:3-5?

3. Because God commands us to share our faith.

What was Jesus' last command to us found in Matthew 28:18-20?

## How do I share my faith?

Which of the following is the best way or ways for **you** to share Christ with others? (choose as many as three)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> hand out four spiritual laws                | F. <input type="checkbox"/> carry a Bible to school                            |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> live a moral life                           | G. <input type="checkbox"/> show love to others                                |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> wear a Christian T-shirt                    | H. <input type="checkbox"/> wait the right opening before talking about Christ |
| D. <input type="checkbox"/> bring a friend to a Student Venture meeting | I. <input type="checkbox"/> invite my friends to Bible study                   |
| E. <input type="checkbox"/> give a speech in class about my faith       | J. <input type="checkbox"/> invite a friend to church                          |

Some people say we should witness with our lives. Other say we should witness through our words. How do you think we should witness to people?

## What do I say?

There are two things you can say to effectively communicate Christ with non-believers. One is to share with them the basics of the Gospel which are contained in the *Four Spiritual Laws*. Secondly you can tell them your story of how you accepted Christ and the difference it has made in your life. This is called your testimony.

## Who do I talk to?

Think of some people you know who may not know Christ personally. List them below.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Brainstorm some potential ways that you could share Christ with them.  
Pray that God will give you the opportunity and boldness to tell them about Jesus.

# Dealing with Difficulties

After a person invites Christ into their life, they should expect the rest of their life will be... (Check one)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> like going to Disneyland          | <input type="checkbox"/> some ups and downs but mostly a life of prosperity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a wonderful, happy, abundant life | <input type="checkbox"/> a spiritual battle for the control of their mind   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a casual stroll on the beach      | <input type="checkbox"/> miserable and extremely difficult, full of trials  |

So far my Christian life has been...

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Easy					Moderate		Difficult			

What do you think? SA=Strongly Agree A=Agree D=Disagree SD=Strongly Disagree

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> Most of the time I experience problems, it is because God is punishing me for my sins. | E. <input type="checkbox"/> When bad things happen, there is nothing I can do about them. |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> Everything in a Christian's life happens for a purpose                                 | F. <input type="checkbox"/> What I do today will determine what happens tomorrow.         |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> Satan can cause bad things to happen to me.  | G. <input type="checkbox"/> Life is supposed to full of problems and difficulties         |
| D. <input type="checkbox"/> If something bad happens, it is not from God.  | H. <input type="checkbox"/> Christians have fewer problems than non-Christians            |

Becoming a Christian does not mean you will no longer have any problems. The difficulties you will experience as a Christian can come from one of three sources:

## The World (1 John 2:15-17)

There are three types of temptations that the world offers:

- The **lust of the flesh** (misusing your natural appetites for food, sex, comfort, pleasure, etc.)  
Give an example of a "lust of the flesh" \_\_\_\_\_
- The **lust of the eyes** (desiring to possess things, materialism, wanting whatever you see)  
Give an example of a "lust of the eyes" \_\_\_\_\_
- The **pride of life** (a compulsive pursuit of fame, power, recognition, status in the eyes of another)  
Give an example of the "pride of life" \_\_\_\_\_

## The natural consequences of foolish decisions (Galatians 6:7)

What is sowing and what is reaping? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever made a foolish decision and experienced bad consequences?

Have you ever made a good decision and experienced good consequences?

## Things God allows for our spiritual growth

God will allow us experience hard times for two reasons:

- Disciplining us a consequence for our sin  
Why does God discipline us in Proverbs 3:11-12?
- Testing us to cause spiritual growth (James 1:2-4)  
Why does James say God allows trials into our lives?

The Basics #15

by Steve Huerd

<http://www.svtwincities.org/basics>

# When to RUN and When to RESIST!

When you are tempted to do something you know is wrong, what do you do? (place an X on the line scale)

I usually give in

I usually resist

Complete the following sentences:

If I were tempted to cheat on a test, I would...

If I were to find a pornographic magazine, I would...

If I felt my parents were being unfair to me, I would...

If my friends decided to do something wrong, I would...



We all face temptations to do wrong things. How do these verses describe the right response to temptation?

Proverbs 4:14,15: \_\_\_\_\_

2 Timothy 2:22: \_\_\_\_\_

1 Timothy 6:10-11: \_\_\_\_\_

**Temptation is not to be resisted, it is to be fled from.**

Give an example of a common temptation and how someone could flee from it:

**FLEE!**

**Satan is not to be fled from, but to be actively resisted.**

How does 1 Peter 5:8-9 describe the relationship between the devil and Christians?

How are believers to respond to the devil? (verse 9)

What does the Bible say happens when we resist the devil? (See James 4:7)

Turn to Matthew 4:1-11 to see how Jesus resisted the devil.

Jesus applied three principles in speaking to the devil that we can also apply

1. Address him directly
2. Command him to leave (or cease his activities in your area)
3. Remind him of the authority by which you command him: God's Word

**Do you need to be a spiritually mature Christian to resist the devil?**

No, but you must understand the power of God's Word over Satan and who you are in Christ.

You are merely exercising your authority as a child of God over the devil.

*Policeman Illustration*

Remember that God will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able (1 Cor. 10:13).

**RESIST!**

The Basics #16

by Steve Huerd

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# Making the MOST of Your Time

*Time is a precious commodity. We all must make choices every day on how to spend our time. Imagine you only have forty free hours a week to spend after going to school and sleeping. How would you spend it?*

**Each of these costs six hours**

- Having a job
- Being a radical disciple of Christ
- Doing "all" your homework
- Being in a sport or band

**Each of these costs four hours:**

- Having a boyfriend/girlfriend
- Watching two new movies
- Going shopping with money to the mall

**Each of these costs two hours:**

- Coming to Bible study
- Getting a shower and a change of clothes every day
- Listening to some good music to "unwind"

**Each of these costs five hours:**

- Attending Church activities
- Consistently participating in Student Venture
- Volunteering service to help others
- Having daily quiet times with God

**Each of these costs three hours:**

- Keeping a best friend
- Going out with friends on Saturday night
- Going to a football or basketball game

**Each of these costs one hour:**

- Helping clean up the house
- Doing something with your family
- Praying every day

*The battle for effective time management is won or lost by our ability to make wise decisions regarding our day-to-day activities. However we cannot make those decisions intelligently without some type of goal or purpose by which we can evaluate the pros and cons of our decisions.*

There are two good Biblical reasons on why we should be wise with our time.

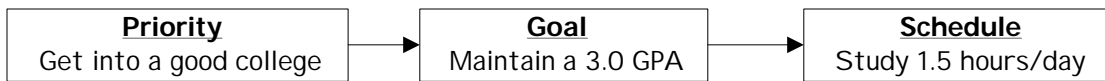
1. Life is short (James 4:14)
2. Every person will have to give an account before God of how they used their time (Romans 14:12)

According to Jesus what should our greatest priorities in life be? (See Matthew 22:37-40)

To Love \_\_\_\_\_ and to Love \_\_\_\_\_

## DETERMINING YOUR PRIORITIES & GOALS

Effective time management begins with determining our priorities, setting realistic goals, and then planning our schedule to accomplish our goals.



Write down three priorities you would like to accomplish in high school. (i.e. get into a good college, develop some lasting friendships, grow and mature in my relationship with God, etc.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

What realistic goals can you set to see these priorities accomplished?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## MAXIMIZING YOUR TIME

In order to really use our time wisely we must compare our schedule to our priorities. Are we spending our time according to our top priorities and goals?

During an average week my biggest waste of time is...

List two ways you could use your time more wisely this week to accomplish your goals:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

# God's View of Things

*God has important plans for you. In order to understand these plans we must first understand what is important to God.*

While there are many things which are important to God, three things stand out in relation to vision:

## God values the Eternal over the Temporal

What's the difference between something that is eternal vs. something that is temporal?

Discuss how John 12:24-25 and Matthew 18:8-9 put the eternal over the temporal.

In the Bible, three things are listed as being eternal

1. God - Psalms 90:2
2. The Word of God - Isaiah 40:8, Mark 13:31
3. People - 1 Thes. 4:16-17 (Christians) &  
2 Thes. 1:7-10 (non-Christians)

What things do you do every week that are eternal in nature?



## God values the Spiritual over the Material

Jesus told a story about a rich man in Luke 12:16-21.

Why did God call the rich man a fool?

How does God feel about **storing up** material "treasures" for ourselves?

Is it wrong for a Christian to have material treasures on earth?

According to Jesus in Matthew 6:19-21 where should we store up our treasures?

## God values Availability over Ability

Notice in the following passages God's attitude toward the worldly - wise and gifted.

Matthew 11:25

1 Corinthians 1:18-21

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

*God doesn't need men and women of great ability. All he needs are people with availability, people who are willing and able to do what He wants them do, say what He wants them to say, go where He wants them to go, and be what He wants them to be.*

Think about some of the great men and women of the Bible and how little they had going for them and how mightily God used them.

**Moses** - Was a murderer, fugitive, shepherd in exile and a man of great reluctance and little faith. Yet God used him to be His primary ambassador to earth, the one with whom God spoke "face to face" and whom God spoke of as "My servant" (Joshua 1:2).

**Ruth** - A Moabitess in exile, widowed, childless, destitute. God set her up with Boaz, a wealthy land-owner, and they became the great-grandparents of King David (Ruth 4:21,22).

**Paul** - Vicious, zealous persecutor of Christians, sent many of God's children to prison and death. He turned out to be the most influential Christian ever to have lived (He wrote half of the books in the New Testament).

How can you become more "available" to God?

**The Basics** #18

by Steve Huerd

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# God's Plan for YOUR Life

## What are some of God's important plans for you?

**YOU** are very important to God because you are eternal, you are spiritual, and you are becoming more available to God all the time. While no one can tell you specific, detailed plans for your life. The Bible does give us some good ideas of God's general plans for our lives.



## God's Plans for YOU, in this Life

1. To lead you to a positive future (Jeremiah 29:11 & I Cor. 2:9)
2. To have you bear spiritual fruit

How much fruit does God want us to bear according to John 15:8

When it comes to bearing spiritual fruit most of us do not realize our potential.

### Realizing Your Potential

Did you know that it is possible for you personally to reach the world for Christ? You don't have to be the Pope or Billy Graham or have a billion dollars or anything. All you have to do faithfully apply a Biblical principle. This principle is found in 2 Timothy 2:2.

*Paul reached > Timothy who reached > Faithful men who will reach > Others also*

First Year	5 years	10 years	15 years	20 years	33 years
win one to Christ	32 people	1024	32,768	1,048,576	reached world!

3. To help you develop and use the unique gift (s) He has give you for the good of the Body:  
(I Cor. 12:4-30) (I Peter 4:10-11)

4. To accomplish good works which God has specifically made for you - Ephesians 2:10

## His Plans for YOU, for Eternity

1. To install you in an eternal mansion (John 14:2-3)
2. To give you authority so you may reign with Christ for eternity  
(I Cor. 6:2) (Rev. 5:9-10)
3. To give you the fortunes you have amassed through your good works on earth:  
(Matthew 6:19-21) (Hebrews 6:10) (I Cor. 3:11-14)
4. To give you a new, supernatural body like Christ's:  
(I Cor. 15:35-53) (2 Cor. 5:1-4)

## What do you need to do to fit in with His plans?

Many of God's plans for you are "unconditional," meaning they'll happen no matter what. But quite a number of His plans and blessings for you are "conditional." Let's look at some verses and see what we are responsible to do for God's plans to be accomplished in our lives.

Verse	If I . . .	God will . . .
Proverbs 3:5-6		
Romans 8:28		
2 Tim 2:20-21		

Do these truths motivate you to continue to walk with God and be discipled?

**The Basics** #19

by Steve Huerd

<http://www.svtwincities.org/basics>

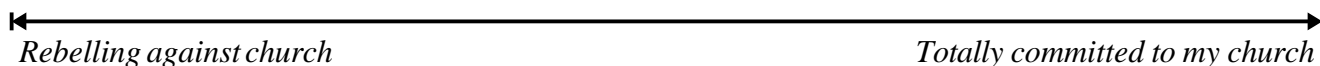
# What's the Big Deal?

*What do you think?* SA=Strongly Agree A=Agree D=Disagree SD=Strongly Disagree

- A. \_\_\_ A Christian should go to church every week.
- B. \_\_\_ You can be a Christian without attending church.
- C. \_\_\_ Attending church most of your childhood makes living the Christian life easier.
- D. \_\_\_ The church is having little or no impact on today's society.
- E. \_\_\_ Going to Student Venture is just as good as going to church.
- F. \_\_\_ Small churches are better than big ones.
- G. \_\_\_ A teenager should be allowed to attend a different church than that of his or her parents.
- H. \_\_\_ If a church is boring or not challenging you, then you should change churches.

*How have your parents affected your involvement in church?*

Place an X on the scale below, indicating where you presently see yourself.

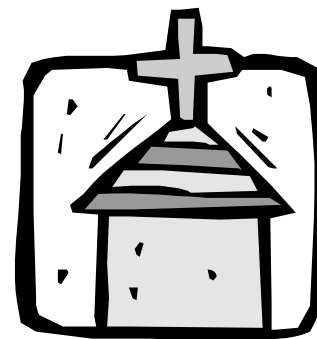


## What is the Church?

Biblically, it is the collection of all the people who have truly professed faith in Christ.

The New Testament gives four word pictures for the church:

- 1. A Building - Ephesians 2:21-22
- 2. A Family - Romans 8:17
- 3. A Bride - 2 Cor. 11:2-3
- 4. A Body - Romans 12:4-5



## Why is it important to be involved in a local church?

- 1. For encouragement - see Hebrews 10:24-25
- 2. To share in the Lord's ordinances - communion (Matthew 26:26-29), baptism (Matthew 28:19)
- 3. To exercise your spiritual gifts - I Corinthians 12:7,12
- 4. To share fellowship, worship, and goods with each other - Acts 2:42-47

What's the difference between Student Venture and a youth group?

Name some things that being in a church can do for you that Student Venture cannot?

Does being a member in a church really make a difference?