



ETERNAL  
SECURITY  
FAITH GOD  
CREATION  
PRAYER  
COMMITMENT  
LORD JESUS CHRIST  
**SALVATION**

CHILDREN OF GOD

BAPTISM

CHRISTIANITY

LOVE STRENGTH

THE BIBLE

SPIRITUAL

HOPE PRAISE

COMMUNION

FORGIVE

STUDY PRAY

HOLY SPIRIT

CHURCH

GOD THE FATHER

PATIENCE

COMMANDMENTS

HONOR WORSHIP

ENCOURAGE

The Faith

FOUNDATIONS

Workbook

Written by Terrence E.C. Jones

# THE FAITH FOUNDATIONS WORKBOOK

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**DEDICATION:**

To my beautiful friend, Casey Griffin,  
whose desire to understand her faith came from  
a heart of sincerity, humility, and love.

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## INTRODUCTION

Jesus once told a story of two builders. The first chose to build his house on a foundation of rock. When the rains came, and the floodwaters rose, the house withstood the deluge because it was constructed on a firm foundation. The second chose to build on a foundation of sand. When the rains came, and the floodwaters rose, the sandy ground became saturated and unstable, and the house collapsed. Jesus used this story to illustrate how important it was for His disciples to follow His teachings. To be obedient to what He commanded us to do meant we were building our lives on a solid foundation. To do otherwise would ensure our instability as we faced life's challenges.

*The Faith Foundations Workbook* has been designed to help you start building your spiritual life on the right foundation. There are eight lessons in this workbook that focus on specific teachings that are important to your early spiritual growth. Going through each chapter will take some time and effort, but the knowledge gained will be helpful to you. Completing the activities that follow each lesson is not necessary, but they can help reinforce what you read by providing opportunities for further study. As your knowledge of the Christian Faith grows, and you become more adept at using and reading the Bible, your relationship with Jesus Christ will become more meaningful. This will give you increased confidence in your faith and boldness to live it out before others.

This workbook is not meant to be an exhaustive study on what it means to be a Christian. It is more of a beginner's guide that introduces you to those foundational elements of your new spiritual journey as a child of God.

Let's get started.

## CHAPTER ONE: HOW TO USE YOUR BIBLE

The content offered in this workbook is based on teachings found in the Bible. If you have never used a Bible, or at least, not very often, you will find this chapter helpful.

### The Testaments

The Bible is comprised of sixty-six (66) books that are divided into two parts: The Old Testament (39 books) and the New Testament (27 books). If you are using a printed version of the Bible, take a few moments to find the INDEX. It should be located within the first few pages. There you will see the divisions and the books in each testament.

OLD TESTAMENT		NEW TESTAMENT	
1. Genesis	21. Ecclesiastes	1. Matthew	15. First Timothy
2. Exodus	22. Song of Solomon	2. Mark	16. Second Timothy
3. Leviticus	23. Isaiah	3. Luke	17. Titus
4. Numbers	24. Jeremiah	4. John	18. Philemon
5. Deuteronomy	25. Lamentations	5. Acts	19. Hebrews
6. Joshua	26. Ezekiel	6. Romans	20. James
7. Judges	27. Daniel	7. First Corinthians	21. First Peter
8. Ruth	28. Hosea	8. Second Corinthians	22. Second Peter
9. First Samuel	29. Joel	9. Galatians	23. First John
10. Second Samuel	30. Amos	10. Ephesians	24. Second John
11. First Kings	31. Obadiah	11. Philippians	25. Third John
12. Second Kings	32. Jonah	12. Colossians	26. Jude
13. First Chronicles	33. Micah	13. First Thessalonians	27. Revelation
14. Second Chronicles	34. Nahum	14. Second Thessalonians	
15. Ezra	35. Habakkuk		
16. Nehemiah	36. Zephaniah		
17. Esther	37. Haggai		
18. Job	38. Zechariah		
19. Psalm	39. Malachi		
20. Proverbs			

### Bible References

Each book in the Bible has chapters, with each chapter being comprised of verses. To access information found in the Bible, you will need a Bible reference. A Bible reference is like a locator tag that tells you where a specific verse can be found in the Bible. To locate a verse, you will need to know four things: the division (Old or New Testament), the name of the Book, the chapter number, and the verse number. An example of a Bible reference in this workbook will look like this:

#### OT Jeremiah 33:3

This means the verse will be found in the Old Testament division, in the book of Jeremiah, chapter 33, and verse 3. Each Bible reference listed in the following pages begins with OT (Old Testament) or NT (New Testament) to let you know where to start looking if you are

using a printed Bible. Use the index to find the page number of the specific book. When you locate it and turn to the page, simply follow the numbers of the chapters and verses consecutively until you reach the exact location.

### **Recommended English Bible Translations**

Originally, the books of the Old Testament were written in Hebrew and those of the New Testament were written in Greek. Today, we rely on translations to help us understand what was written in the Bible. Of the many different English translations in circulation, there are three I would recommend as you begin your new spiritual journey:

- The New International Version
- The Contemporary English Version
- The New American Standard Bible

If you already have a Bible you are comfortable with, continue to use it. My recommendations may offer slightly nuanced and easier readings, but the teachings remain the same.

### **Mobile Applications**

If you are more comfortable using a mobile device to access teaching and learning content, there are several free Bible apps available on IOS and Android that give access to multiple English translations. Here are my recommendations for the two best free Bible apps:

- The Bible App (Developer: Life.Church)
- The Gideon Bible App (Developer: Faith Comes by Hearing)

## **CHAPTER TWO: THE IMPORTANCE OF BIBLE STUDY**

### **1. THE MAIN**

Our bodies need food to grow and function. Sometimes that food can be in solid forms like a salad, steak, or a sandwich. At other times, it can be a liquid like soup or milk. These forms of nourishment provide our bodies with the fuel necessary for them to develop and operate correctly.

Jesus Christ said, “Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God (NT Matthew 4:4).” As important as it is for us to eat solid foods, it is not all we need. To live for God’s glory means we must also receive another type of nourishment – the kind that comes from God’s Word. NT 1 Peter 2:2 encourages us: “Like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation.” Just like babies need milk to grow, new followers of Jesus Christ need the spiritual nourishment found in the Bible to help them grow stronger in their faith.

How does reading the Bible help us to grow? NT 2 Timothy 3:16-17 tells us the Word of God “...is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” God’s Word is beneficial to Christians in four areas. First, it helps us understand “teaching” – the doctrines of the Christian Faith. Second, it helps us understand “rebuking” – things that are false teachings. Third, it helps us understand “correcting” – personal actions and attitudes that are wrong. Finally, it helps us understand “training in righteousness” – actions and attitudes that are good. As we learn these things from the Bible, we will be able to understand what we should and should not believe and what we should and should not do. As we learn and practice these things, we become spiritually stronger.

If we want to be healthy and growing Christians, we must read and learn about the things written in the Bible. We can do this on our own or with others. As you go through these lessons, you will learn more about the Bible. When you attend church or a Bible study group, you will learn more about the Bible. If you take a few moments every day to read a few verses in the Bible, you will learn more from it. The more you learn, the more you will grow and become stronger in your Christian Faith.

The Bible provides us with spiritual food. We cannot neglect it. Just as we need physical nourishment to physically grow and function properly, we need spiritual nourishment to spiritually grow and live faithfully.

### **2. THE VIEW**

What is the Bible? It is God’s Word. It tells us all we need to know about our Christian Faith. It provides us with spiritual nourishment to help us grow stronger as Christians.



### 3. THE BUILD

**Based on what you have read in the previous sections of this chapter, try to answer the following questions in your own words.**

- a. How would you describe the Bible?
  
- b. Why is the Bible relevant to Christians?
  
- c. List the four things the Bible helps you understand.

**Let's take another step. Using your Bible, find the references listed at the end of each sentence. Fill in as many blanks as you can, using the information found in each verse. All these references can be found in the Old Testament Book of Psalm in Chapter 119.**

- d. When a young man decides to take heed or follow the Word of God, he will \_\_\_\_\_ his way. (OT Psalm 119:9)
  
- e. God will \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ so that you can \_\_\_\_\_ wondrous things out of His Law. (OT Psalm 119:18)
  
- f. Even though you may be going through difficult times, God's Word will \_\_\_\_\_ you.  
(OT Psalm 119:28)

### 4. THE CONNECT

**Try to connect the content of this lesson with your life.**

How often do you think you should read your Bible?

What steps could you take to help you better understand the Bible?

## **CHAPTER THREE: UNDERSTANDING YOUR SALVATION**

### **1. THE MAIN**

Since the beginning of creation, humanity has been in a constant struggle with sin. Sin is what happens when we choose to disobey what God's Word tells us. When we commit actions that are contrary to the teachings of the Bible, that is sin. Unfortunately, these actions have implications. Not only can they hurt our relationships with one another, but they also disrupt our relationship with God (OT Isaiah 59:3).

Adam and Eve were the first two people created by God to inhabit the earth. When they chose to disobey God in the Garden of Eden, that sin brought upon them the awful judgment of death (OT Genesis 2:16-17). This was not merely physical death but spiritual death (NT Romans 5:12). When we die physically, we are cut off from everything and everyone in the physical world. However, when we die spiritually, we are cut off from God. Unfortunately, this spiritual death was not for Adam and Eve alone but was passed onto all their descendants who chose to be disobedient to God (NT Romans 3:10-19; 5:12-19). All human beings born into this world are born like their fore-parents Adam and Eve – under the judgment of sin. This is why the Bible calls unbelievers the children of judgment (NT Ephesians 2:1-3). The only way we could escape such a punishment was to be delivered from it.

This is precisely what Jesus Christ did for us. God sent His Son into the world to make it possible for sinful people to be saved from the judgment of sin. The Bible tells us Jesus bore our sins in His own body when He died on the cross (NT 1 Peter 2:24). He took the judgment we deserved for living our lives in sin (OT Isaiah 53:4-6) and suffered the spiritual death that sin brings so we did not have to experience it. His sacrifice made it possible for us to be delivered from that judgment for all eternity (NT 1 Corinthians 15:17-20).

The beautiful thing is that God offers this deliverance as a gift to the world (NT Romans 6:23). All we need to do is accept it. By expressing personal faith in the fact that Jesus Christ died for us, we are saved and become like a new creation (NT 2 Corinthians 5:17). It is not enough for us to simply acknowledge we have sinned. To be truly free, we must personally believe and accept that Jesus Christ has provided the solution for us (NT Acts 11:18; 20:21). No one can be saved for us. It is a personal commitment we make before God because of what Christ has done for us.

### **2. THE VIEW**

What is salvation? It is that act whereby God delivers all who place their faith in Jesus Christ, from the judgment of their sin.

### 3. THE BUILD

Based on what you have read in the previous sections of this chapter, try to answer the following questions in your own words.

- a. How would you define salvation?
  
- b. How would you define sin?
  
- c. How would you define spiritual death?

Let's take another step. Using your Bible, find the references listed at the end of each sentence. Fill in as many spaces as you can by using the information found in each verse. The references are limited to two New Testament books.

- d. It was only by being \_\_\_\_\_ that anyone can see the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. (NT John 3:3)
  
- e. We are born again when we \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ. We will not \_\_\_\_\_ but have \_\_\_\_\_. (NT John 3:15)
  
- f. We needed this eternal life because we were \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (NT Ephesians 2:1)

### 4. THE CONNECT

Try to connect the content of this lesson with your life.

How do you know that you are saved?

Do you think your life will be any different now that you are a Christian?

Think about three ways you would like your life to be different.

## **CHAPTER FOUR: YOU ARE SECURE FOR ALL ETERNITY**

### **1. THE MAIN**

One of the struggles many new converts to Christianity face is trying to confirm they are really saved. Since accepting God's gift of salvation was an act of faith, there are no physical or external signs to prove it happened. Emotions being what they are, sometimes we may not "feel" saved. When such moments arise, it can be easy to doubt that God did deliver us from the judgment of our sin. The truth is, as our salvation was received by faith, it is by that same faith we must accept that it did happen.

But, how can we believe in something we do not feel? This is where God steps in to help us. He gave us all we need to strengthen our confidence in our salvation. NT 1 John 5:13 says: "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God that you may know you have eternal life." It is by reading and understanding what is in the Bible that we gain confidence in our salvation. NT Romans 15:4 states: "For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope." As we spend time reading the Word of God, our confidence in being saved is strengthened. As we learn more, that confidence will grow even stronger.

The basis for such confidence in salvation is found in God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. OT Psalm 27:1 and 9 declares that God is our salvation; it does not rest on our feelings or in our power. It rests solely in God. Secondly, it was by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross that we have been saved from our sins and made complete before God (NT Hebrews 10:12-14). It was not our works that saved us, but Jesus' sacrifice. Finally, the power of God's Holy Spirit has sealed us until the day we go to be with God in heaven (NT Ephesians 4:30). It is the Holy Spirit's responsibility to ensure our souls are kept safe until we get to heaven.

We did nothing to save ourselves. We trusted in Jesus Christ to save us. It was because of that trust that we received the gift of salvation and the hope of eternal life with God. It does not matter how we feel about it. Our salvation was never dependent on us. It was offered to us by God through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross and sealed in us by the Holy Spirit. If we believed in Jesus Christ at one point in our past, then we are saved in the present and for all eternity. Salvation is a gift from God, and the gifts and calling of God are irrevocable (NT Romans 11:29). Our Heavenly Father has secured our salvation forever.

### **2. THE VIEW**

What is eternal security? It is God's promise to us that once we are saved, our salvation is forever.

### 3. THE BUILD

Based on what you have read in the previous sections of this chapter, try to answer the following questions in your own words.

- a. How would you define eternal security?
  
- b. What has God given to you to build your confidence in your salvation?

NT Romans 8:35-39 gives us a list of things that will never separate us from the love of God. Try to find the words in the puzzle below.

TRIBULATION ● DISTRESS ● FAMINE ● PERIL  
SWORD ● DEATH ● LIFE ● ANGELS ● POWERS ● CREATURES

F	A	M	I	N	E	Y	U	L	R	E	T	D	A	W
O	A	L	I	N	C	R	E	A	T	U	R	E	S	R
O	L	O	O	S	O	D	I	U	A	T	U	A	T	S
L	X	Q	P	D	X	I	O	G	F	W	E	T	O	L
P	E	R	I	L	C	S	T	H	I	K	T	H	P	E
R	X	W	A	F	V	T	P	A	T	T	E	R	G	G
T	P	W	A	G	B	R	A	L	L	P	O	U	E	N
Y	O	E	D	H	N	E	S	L	T	U	Z	W	V	A
U	W	R	R	J	M	S	D	W	H	X	B	Q	J	M
O	E	T	O	K	Q	S	F	A	I	L	S	I	A	A
V	R	Y	W	L	W	T	H	Y	A	K	E	R	R	N
B	S	U	S	Z	E	R	L	I	F	E	S	A	M	T

### 4. THE CONNECT

Try to connect the content of this lesson with your life.

If you have already experienced doubts about your salvation, what usually brings on that feeling?

What do you think can be done to stop those negative feelings?

## CHAPTER FIVE: THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

### 1. THE MAIN

Prayer is often described as talking to God. For many people, when they talk to God, they ask Him for things. However, prayer is much more than that. It has been designed to help us grow in our faith by deepening our relationship with God.

It is true that by praying to God, we can receive His help. Jesus said, “Ask and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you (NT Matthew 7:7).” If we have specific needs in life that we cannot fulfill on our own, we should ask God to help us. However, prayer goes far beyond asking God for things.

Look at these other ways prayer is used in the Bible. “Continue in prayer and watch in the same with thanksgiving (NT Colossians 4:2).” It is through prayer we say thanks to God for all He has done for us. “Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always (OT 1 Chronicles 16:11); “I sought the Lord and He heard me and delivered me from all my fears (OT Psalm 34:4).” Prayer is about wanting to learn more about God and drawing God’s attention to us. When we pray, God turns His face to us and gives us His full attention. It is like two people communicating with each other and building their relationship together. “Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress, and he hears my voice (OT Psalm 55:17).” “Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer (OT Psalm 61:1).” Prayer is also seen as crying out to God. There can be emotional intensity in praying. This means we can be free and open before God. We never have to feel ashamed as we pray to Him. We do not have to worry about having all the right words. A cry is enough for God. All He wants to know is what is in our hearts. If we feel hurt, it is okay to cry before Him. If we feel happy, it is okay to be excited and laugh in our prayers.

Because this activity means so much, we must be prepared when we pray. Jesus Christ taught His disciples to “watch and pray (NT Matthew 26:41).” Being watchful means we should focus our hearts and minds when we enter into our time of prayer. This is when we speak to God and He ministers to us. Our minds should not be distracted by other things or other people. Prayer is an essential spiritual activity that must be a consistent part of our lives if we want to experience a fulfilling relationship with God.

### 2. THE VIEW

What is prayer? It is a spiritual activity that helps us nurture our relationship with the Lord. It means taking the time to communicate with God by telling Him how much we appreciate Him, letting Him know about the things that concern us, and asking Him to give us all that we need to be our best for Him.

### 3. THE BUILD

**Based on what you have read in the previous sections of this chapter, try to answer the following questions in your own words.**

- a. How would you define prayer?
  
- b. How can prayer help us build our relationship with God?

**The following statements tell you different ways, times, and places people prayed in the Bible. This section may take you longer to complete than in the previous lessons. The references are taken from multiple locations in both divisions of the Bible.**

- c. Abraham's servant prayed \_\_\_\_\_. (OT Genesis. 24:12-14)
  
- d. Moses prayed by \_\_\_\_\_ his head (OT Exodus. 34:8)
  
- e. David prayed in his \_\_\_\_\_. (OT Psalm 4:3-4)
  
- f. Daniel prayed \_\_\_\_\_ down. (OT Daniel 6:10)
  
- g. Paul and Silas prayed at \_\_\_\_\_. (NT Acts 16:25)

### 4. THE CONNECT

**Try to connect the content of this lesson with your life.**

When you pray, do you tell God you appreciate Him, or do you simply ask for things?

Name three things you have prayed for and God has answered your prayer.

What can you do to improve your prayer life?

## CHAPTER SIX: DEALING WITH TEMPTATIONS

### 1. THE MAIN

Every day we are faced with situations that require us to make choices that are either right or wrong. The struggle comes when we think the results for doing the wrong thing will benefit us more than if we did what is right. For example: telling a lie to get out of a compromising situation may appear to be more helpful than telling the truth about what we did. Stealing to help others meet a desperate need can outweigh the norm of not taking the property of others without their permission. That emotional struggle of knowing a specific action is wrong but wanting to do it anyway is called temptation.

Before we were saved, we did not care about pleasing God. All that was important was what felt right to us at the time. However, things are different now. We have a new life because of Jesus Christ. We are saved and therefore children of God. NT 2 Corinthians 5:17 declares: "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come." We cannot do whatever we want anymore. Our life is now in God's hands. "If we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's (NT Romans 14:8)." We must handle our temptations in ways that will please God and not ourselves or others.

First, we must be alert and pray. Jesus said: "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak (NT Matthew 26:41)." We must ask for God's help in making us aware of those things that may cause us to sin and avoid them. The second way we can deal with temptations is to understand what the Bible says about specific actions and attitudes. As we learn more about what the Bible teaches, we will gain more knowledge about things that are good and bad. That increased knowledge will give us the ability to make better decisions. This is what the Bible calls having our "senses exercised to discern both good and evil (NT Hebrews 5:14)." Finally, we can deal with temptations by allowing the Holy Spirit to empower us. Because we are saved, we have God's Spirit living within us. The Bible says: "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?" (NT 1 Corinthians 6:19). As a result of His presence in our lives, we have a stronger power living within us. NT 1 John 4:4 states: "Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world." God's Spirit is willing to do more for us than anything or anyone else.

### 2. THE VIEW

What is temptation? It is our desire to do what is wrong because we believe there is benefit in it for us.



### 3. THE BUILD

**Based on what you have read in the previous sections of this chapter, try to answer the following questions in your own words.**

- a. What does it mean to “watch and pray” when dealing with temptation?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. What benefit is there in knowing what the Bible says when dealing with temptation?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- c. What is the result of having the Holy Spirit living within you when you are tempted?

**Use your Bible to fill in as many blanks as you can.**

- d. If sinners \_\_\_\_\_ you, do not go with them. (OT Proverbs 1:10)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- e. Do not go into the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_. (OT Proverbs 4:14)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- f. Do not \_\_\_\_\_ your members as instruments of \_\_\_\_\_ unto sin: but yield yourselves unto \_\_\_\_\_, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of \_\_\_\_\_ unto God. For sin shall not have \_\_\_\_\_ over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. (NT Romans 6:13-14)

### 4. THE CONNECT

**Try to connect the content of this lesson with your life.**

Are there people or situations that cause you to think about doing the wrong things when you are confronted by them?

What do you think are the best ways to deal with them?

## CHAPTER SEVEN: BAPTISM

### 1. THE MAIN

Apart from a Christian's salvation experience, there is no other action that carries the excitement of being baptized. It is a powerful ceremony that embraces symbolism and personal action to wonderfully illustrate the spiritual reality of our new life in Jesus Christ.

In the New Testament, baptisms were not performed indiscriminately. They were reserved for those who were believers in Christ. NT Romans 6:3-5 states: "Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore, we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection." In these verses, the act of baptism symbolized something. It was a re-creation of certain events that took place in the life of Jesus Christ. Those events were His death, burial, and resurrection. When we are baptized, we are acting out what happened to Jesus Christ.

But why should those who follow Jesus Christ want to act out these events? It was His death, burial, and resurrection that made it possible for us to be saved from the judgment of sin. When we are baptized, we are showing we agree or identify with what Jesus did to save us. When we are being lowered into the water, we are portraying Jesus' death. As we are submerged in the water, we are depicting Jesus' burial. And as we are brought up out of the water, we are representing Jesus' resurrection. This is a complete picture of the Gospel. We become a living picture of what Jesus had to do for us so we could be saved. Because baptism represents such a powerful image, it cannot be done by anyone who does not appreciate the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for their sins. Baptism is publicly showing to others the change that has occurred in our hearts. And as we are saved once for all eternity, baptism as a symbol of our salvation is performed only once.

Just as we identify with what Jesus did to save us by being baptized, we must honor Him by the way we live our lives. We have been resurrected into a new spiritual life in Christ and we must put away our old ways of living (NT 2 Corinthians 5:17). In other words, now that we are saved, our lives should reflect our relationship with Jesus Christ. Our willingness to be baptized is a symbol to all who will see that we are no longer our old selves, but we are new creations in Jesus Christ who now live for God's glory.

### 2. THE VIEW

What is baptism? It is the one-time act of publicly showing to others that we identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ in our salvation, and we now live for God's glory.

### **3. THE BUILD**

**Based on what you have read in the previous sections of this chapter, try to answer the following questions in your own words.**

a. How would you define baptism?

b. How do you identify with Christ when you are baptized?

**Read NT Acts 8:26-40. These verses tell the story of how Philip baptized the Ethiopian Treasury Minister who served under Queen Candace. See if you can discover five steps that lead to this important official being baptized.**

STEP 1 (verse 28) –

STEP 2 (verse 31) –

STEP 3 (verse 35) –

STEP 4 (verse 36) –

STEP 5 (verse 37) –

### **4. THE CONNECT**

**Try to connect the content of this lesson with your life.**

After studying this lesson, do you think baptism is something you should do?

## CHAPTER EIGHT: THE CHURCH

### 1. THE MAIN

Jesus Christ has chosen the church to be the channel for His blessings on this earth and His instrument to fight against evil. He said: “I will build my church and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it (NT Matthew 16:18).” So close is Christ to the church that it carries the great honor of being called “the Body of Christ” (NT 1 Corinthians 12:27). Because of its purpose and closeness to Christ, the church plays a vital role in the life of every Christian.

First, it provides an environment in which Christians can worship God. It is through our worship that we maintain a meaningful relationship with our Heavenly Father. We worship God when we tell Him how much He means to us and how thankful we are He is involved in our lives. Although we may do this in our personal prayer times, when we do it in the church, we can experience worship at a much deeper level. Not only are there songs and music added, but we worship God with other believers. In OT Psalm 34:3, King David declares, “O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.” He understood that worshipping God went beyond the privacy of his home, and was to be a shared experience with other believers.

Second, the church is a place to learn more about what the Bible teaches. Every week, many churches have services dedicated to the exposition of Biblical truths. As the pastor and other church leaders take on the responsibility of interpreting what the Bible says, those listening can learn more about God and the Christian life. It is this type of teaching and learning that helps us to grow spiritually. The church provides a transmission of biblical wisdom from teacher to learner, which is an essential part of building our faith.

Third, the church is a place to connect and engage with other Christians. This is more than a get-together or a reunion. It is about having a positive impact on those we meet as we worship together. NT Hebrews 10:23 states: “And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.” We must do our best to encourage other Christians to be faithful in their service to God. As we worship and study together, we can help one another with words of counsel and prayer. When we come to church, we are not just there to worship God, but we are there to be a blessing to one another.

To some people, the idea of going to church brings negative thoughts to their minds. They think of extended services with drawn-out singing and boring sermons. Some people have been emotionally hurt by things that happened in a church. While acknowledging that no church is perfect, there is a church that can be perfect for us. Be open to the blessings God has in store for you and allow Him to help you find a place among His people.

### 2. THE VIEW

What is the church? It is a group of Christians who come together to worship God, study His Word, and seek to be an encouragement in one another’s lives.

### **3. THE BUILD**

**Based on the information you just read, try to answer the following questions.**

- a. Before you read this lesson, how would you have described the church?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. Thinking about what you have read, how would you define the church now?

**Read NT Revelation 2:1-3. These verses tell the story of the Church of Ephesus. See if you can find five (5) good things this church did. The first two (2) answers have been provided?**

1. They had patience.
2. They could bear those who were evil.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

### **4. THE CONNECT**

**Try to connect the content of this lesson with your life.**

Looking at your own life, what are the benefits to you in attending church?

## **CONCLUSION**

Congratulations, you did it!

You have completed THE FAITH FOUNDATIONS WORKBOOK. Your time and effort have resulted in your expanded knowledge of the Bible and the teachings essential to your growth as a Christian. Remember, this is only the first step in the journey that is your Christian life. There is still much to learn and do for the cause of Jesus Christ. You have started what will be an ongoing process of learning and growing in the Lord. You are not the same person you were when you began this workbook. As you have read and studied, you have grown in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. It is this knowledge of the Savior that will renew your heart and mind day after day as you choose to live for His Glory.