Victory Christian Center

Bible Believer's Academy – What We Believe, Teach & Minister

Why We Believe – New Believers – New Members Manual

(Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

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Why We Believe in Salvation (Reality of the New Birth)

Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple

We believe salvation from our sins is provided by the blood of Jesus. We have eternal life with Him when we have asked Him to be our Lord and Savior. (Romans 10:9, 10, 13)

FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE: II Corinthians 5:17

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Perish for Lack of Knowledge

1. Hosea 4:6
2. Proverbs 13:13

B. Terms Defined

1. Salvation (soteria)
   a. deliverance and preservation
   b. experiencing God's power to deliver
2. Saved (sozo)
   a. deliverance for the whole man
   b. wholeness – spirit, soul, and body

II. THE NEW BIRTH (Salvation)

A. The New Birth Explained

1. II Corinthians 5:17
2. John 3:3-6, 16
3. You operate it
   a. Romans 10:9-10
   b. Ephesians 2:8-10

*B. Benefits of the New Birth (**Salvation)***

1. Union with God (Galatians 3:26)
2. Seated with Christ (Ephesians 2:6)
3. Delivered from Satan's control (Colossians 1:13-14)
4. Righteous (Romans 3:22-26; I Corinthians 1:30)
5. Redeemed from the curse (Galatians 3:13-14)
6. Divine health (I Peter 2:24)
7. Prosperity (II Corinthians 4:8 and 8:9)

III. AFTER BEING BORN AGAIN, THE MIND MUST BE RENEWED

The body (flesh) and soul are not "born again" when the spirit is born again but must be brought under the dominion of the spirit-filled human spirit. This done through application of the word and a disciplined Christian life.

A. The Spirit is New not the Mind - This section is covered in the chapter on page 48.

1. II Corinthians 5:17
2. The mind must be renewed
   a. Ephesians 4:23
   b. Romans 12:1-2

B. The Mind is the Battleground

1. II Corinthians 10:3-5
1. Hebrews 12:3

Why We Believe in Water Baptism (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

We believe after salvation we should also be baptized, and that baptism is by immersion. The Lord gave us the example of when He was baptized by John. Baptism is not necessary for salvation but we should be obedient to the command of the Lord. (Acts 10:48)

FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE: Colossians 2:11-15

I. WATER BAPTISM

A. Term Defined

1. Baptizo (baptize)
   a. To dip, to be overwhelmed
   b. To baptize
2. Baptisma (baptism)
   a. Immersion
   b. Submersion and emergence

B. The Place of Baptism

1. It is a command
   a. Matthew 28:18-20
   b. Mark 16:15-16
2. It is following in Jesus' example
   a. Luke 3:21-22
   b. Matthew 3:13-17
3. The early church baptized people
   a. Acts 8:35-39 (Ethiopian Eunuch)
   b. Acts 2:37-38 (Day of Pentecost)
   c. Acts 10:44-48 (Cornelius house)

II. IMPORTANCE OF WATER BAPTISM

A. Spiritual Circumcision

1. Colossians 2:11-15
2. Romans 6:3-6
3. Galatians 3:26-29

B. Outward sign of inward change

1. I Peter 3:20-21
2. I Corinthians 10:1-6
   a. Israel passing through Red Sea
   b. Type of Baptism
   c. Left old, became new

III. CONCLUSION

A. It symbolizes our spiritual circumcision
B. It is an outward display of an inward change

Why We Believe in Healing (Part 1) (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

Not only was salvation provided by the blood of Jesus, but also our healing. We believe sickness and disease must come from the devil and that God brings life and healing to our bodies. In our service, we pray for the sick as the Lord leads, but we also teach people how to stand on God's Word for themselves. (Isaiah 53:1-4 Psalms 103:1-3)

FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE: I Peter 2:24

I. HEALING OUR COVENANT RIGHT

A. Healing as part of the atonement

1. Isaiah 53:3-5
   a. healing for three-fold man
   b. by stripes are healed
2. Matthew 8:16-17
3. Psalms 103:3
   a. forgives iniquity
   b. heals all diseases
4. I Peter 2:24 – were healed
5. Luke 5:17-26

B. Jesus established God's willingness to heal

1. Mark 1:39-44 - - the leper
2. Acts 10:38
3. I John 3:8

II. FAITH FOR HEALING

A. Your responsibility

1. Isaiah 53:1 - - who has believed
2. John 5:1-13 - -did not know it was Jesus
3. Acts 14:7-10
   a. perceived had faith to be healed
   b. gave command
   c. man responded and was healed

B. Destroyed for lack of knowledge

1. Isaiah 5:13 – gone into captivity
2. Hosea 4:6
3. Cannot exercise faith beyond knowledge of revealed will of God

III. CONCLUSION

A. Healing is part of the atonement
B. Jesus established God's willingness to heal
C. We must respond to knowledge we have

Why We Believe in Healing (Part 2) (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 53:4-5

I. WHERE DOES SICKNESS COME FROM?

A. The Devil
1. Acts 10:38
2. Luke 13:16 – sickness if satanic oppression

B. Sickness and disease entered the world by sin. Romans 5:12 – death entered the world by sin. Disease is incipient death (or, death starts to appear by disease).

II. HEALING IN REDEMPTION

A. Isaiah 53:4-5
B. I Peter 2:24
C. Galatians 3:13 and Deuteronomy 28:61 – sickness under the curse, we are redeemed from curse.
D. Word "saved" in the Greek ("sozo") means "healed", "made sound", and "made whole" (Romans 10:9).
E. "Salvation" and "saved" mean spiritual and physical salvation; or spiritual and physical healing, in the original Greek.
F. Healing came with atonement in the Old Testament
1. Leviticus 14:18
2. Leviticus 14 and 15, both chapters

III. IT IS GOD'S WILL TO HEAL ALL (It's His Will to Save All)

A. Jesus revealed the will of the Father when He healed the people.
1. John 6:38 – what did He DO? He preached and healed
2. Acts 10:38
3. Matthew 4:23
4. Matthew 8:16-17
5. Matthew 12:15

B. Jesus came to destroy, loosen, and dissolve the works of the devil (sickness is just that). I John 3:8
C. Jesus came that we might have ABUNDANT LIFE – sickness is not abundant life, but the beginning of death (if left unchecked). John 10:10
D. Jesus commanded us to heal the sick (in His name).
1. Matthew 10:1, 7-8
2. Mark 16:18 – it's God's will to heal

IV. HOW TO RECEIVE HEALING FROM GOD – There are several different ways

A. Anoint with oil (James 5:14-16)
B. *Prayer of agreement (Matthew 18:19-20*
C. Laying on of hands (Mark 16:17-18
D. Gifts of healings (I Corinthians 12:8-11; I Corinthians 12:28)
E. Special anointings (Acts 19:11-12)
F. Just saying (and believing) it (Mark 11:23)
G. When you pray believe you receive it (Mark 11:24)

Why We Believe in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (In-Filling of the Holy Spirit) (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

There is another baptism taught and that is the baptism in the Holy Spirit. While we are filled with the Spirit, we should also be baptized. This is separate from salvation and it is evidenced by praying in tongues. (Acts 19:1-6)

REFERENCE SCRIPTURES: Acts 1:8, Acts 2:4

I. BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A. The Promise

1. Another Comforter sent – John 14:16-17
2. Speaking of the Holy Spirit. Not to be given until Jesus was glorified – John 7:37-39
3. Pour out Spirit in last days – Joel 2:28-32
4. Tarry in Jerusalem until Promise sent. Only time believers were told to tarry – Luke 24:49

B. The Promise Fulfilled

1. The day of Pentecost – Acts 2:1-4, 16-21 (fulfilled what Joel said)
2. Received the Promise of the Father – Acts 2:32-33
3. It's for all who believe in the name of Jesus – Acts 2:37-39

II. THE EVIDENCE OF THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A. The Evidence of Tongues

1. At the initial outpouring – Acts 2:4
2. At the house of Cornelius – Acts 10:44-46
3. Peter's commentary on Acts 10 – Acts 11:15-18
4. At Ephesus – Acts 19:1-6
5. Subsequent experience – tongues implied as evidence – Acts 8:12, 14-18

B. **Ten Reasons for Speaking in Tongues**

1. Initial evidence – Acts 2:4
2. Spiritual edification – I Corinthians 14:4
3. Praying perfect will of God – Romans 8:26-27
4. Stimulates faith – Jude 20
5. Enables us to pray for unknown – John 16:13
6. Gives divine direction – I Corinthians 14:2, 13
7. Gives spiritual refreshing – Isaiah 28:11-12
8. For giving of thanks – I Corinthians 14:15-17
9. Brings tongue under subjection – James 3:8
10. Helps keep you in the love of God – Jude 20-21

III. SUMMARY

A. The Promise was fulfilled at the Day of Pentecost.
B. Tongues is the Initial Evidence of the Baptism
C. Tongues Play an Important Role in Christian Living

IV. SUGGESTED STEPS TO RECEIVING THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT Acts 2:38

A. This is to help you effectively counsel

B. The steps to leading a person into the baptism

1. The Gift has already been given – Acts 2:38, 19:1-6 (have you received?).
2. Salvation is the only prerequisite. Can come right alone with salvation. No need to tarry.
3. Laying on of hands – Acts 19:6, Galatians 3:5
4. Expect to speak in tongues – Acts 2:4, I Corinthians 12:2, 4-5, 14-15, 18
5. Will not receive anything false – Luke 11:11-13
6. Speak in other tongues – James 5:7, Hosea 6:3, Zech. 10:1
7. No crowd should be around the candidate.

V. CONCLUSION

A. It is important to know how to minister the Spirit. There are seven basic steps when followed they will work!

Why We Believe in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

The Bible teaches us in I Corinthians 12 that there are gifts of the Holy Spirit that are available to believers today. These are gifts that bless the Body of Christ and when used properly draw people to the Lord. In our services when someone is given a word from the Lord we ask them to let one of our Pastors or Elders know so it can be given at a proper time and so the congregation can hear. We believe God does things decently and in order and we always want to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. (I Corinthians 12:1-10)

FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE: I Corinthians 12:4-11

I. THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

A. Concerning Spiritual Gifts

1. I Corinthians 12:1
   A. not ignorant
   B. not unlearned
2. I Corinthians 12:2-11
   A. diversities of gifts
   B. differences of administrations
   C. diversities of operations
3. Manifestation given to profit withal

B. Gifts Proclaim Jesus as Lord

II. THE CATEGORIES FOR THE GIFTS

A. Revelation Gifts

1. Word of Wisdom
2. Word of Knowledge
3. Discerning of spirits

B. Power Gifts

1. Gift of faith
2. Working of miracles
3. Gifts of healings

C. Utterance Gifts

1. Prophecy
2. Divers kinds of tongues
3. Interpretation of tongues

III. CONCLUSION

A. We Are Not to be Ignorant of Gifts
B. Gifts Can Be Categorized

Why We Believe in Prosperity (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

We believe God wants His people to be blessed and walk in prosperity. As we tithe and give, the windows of heaven are open for us and blessings are poured out. We don't desire the prosperity to consume it on ourselves, but to be a blessing to others and the Kingdom of God. (Psalms 35:27)

FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE: III John 2 and Psalms 35:27

I. THE LAW OF PROSPERITY

A. God's Will is Prosperity

1. III John 2 – above all else
2. Proverbs 10:22
3. Philippians 4:15-19
   a. because constantly giving
   b. God meet your need

B. God's Servants Always Blessed

1. Psalms 35:27
   a. God pleasures in Prosperity of His Servants
   b. His will for you to prosper
2. I Kings 3:5-14 – Solomon exceedingly rich
3. I Kings 10:27 – silver lost its value
4. Genesis 14:17-24 – Abraham – rich

II. PROSPERITY BELONGS TO US

A. II Corinthians 9:6-11

1. give as purpose in heart
2. have more than enough for everything
3. God gives you seed to sow

B. How God Prospers Us

1. Malachi 3:8-11
2. Luke 6:38
3. Proverbs 19:17
4. Mark 10:29-30

III. CONCLUSION

A. God's Will is Prosperity
B. God's Servants Are Always Blessed
C. Prosperity Belongs To Us

Why We Believe in Tithing (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE: Malachi 3:10

I. PRINCIPLE OF THE TITHE

A. Established before the Law

1. Genesis 14:13-24
   a. Abraham gave tithes (1/10) of all
   b. Recognized three things about God
      1) Most High God
      2) Possessor of heaven and earth
      3) Deliverer from all enemies
   c. God made Abraham rich
2. Hebrews 7:1-4
3. Galatians 3:17 (430 years before law)

B. Incorporated during the Law

1. Leviticus 27:30
   a. Tithe is Lords
   b. Means of blessing you
2. Deuteronomy 26:1-19
   a. Bring tithe to Priest
   b. Recount how God blessed in past
   c. God will be involved with you
3. Numbers 18:24-32
   a. This was God's plan to pay ministry gifts
   b. It was their inheritance
   c. Tithes went to Priests, they tithed to High Priest

C. Tithes in the New Testament

1. It is a privilege and a blessing
2. Matthew 23:23 (These ye ought have done)
3. Luke 11:42

II. GOD DESIRES TO PROSPER YOU

A. Prosperity is for God's kids

1. III John 2
2. Luke 12:31-32 (God's good pleasure)

B. Tithing is getting God involved with your finances

1. It is the starting place
2. If not then satan eats up your finances
3. Malachi 3:8-11

III. CONCLUSION

A. Tithing was established before the law
B. Tithing gets God involved with your finances
C. Tithes are a New Testament doctrine

Why We Believe in Holy Communion (Lord's Supper)

(Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

One of the ordinances of the church is to observe communion. This is a special time in our church as we remember what Jesus did for us on the cross. (I Corinthians 11:23-32)

FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE: I Corinthians 11:23-32

I. COMMUNION

A. Communion Instituted

1. Matthew 26:26-30
   a. eat the bread (symbol of body)
   b. drink the cup (symbol of blood)
   c. covenant meal
2. Mark 14:22-26
3. Luke 22:15-20

B. Ordinance of the Church

1. Acts 2:46
2. I Corinthians 11:23-32

II. CONCLUSION: *Communion is Partaking the Covenant Meal*

What's the Deal with Communion? * (1 Corinthians 11:17-34)

Every 1ST Sunday & 3rd Wednesday, we usually spare a few minutes to partake of this supper and some don't even know why. Why do we take itty-bitty pieces of cracker and drink little bitty cups of grape juice on Sundays and Wednesdays? **What's the deal with Communion?**

There are four reasons revealed in 1 Corinthians 11:17-34. Before we look at the reasons, we need to understand why Paul took the time to explain them. Verses 17-22 reveal that the Corinthians were having a problem with their Communion services. Some were getting drunk on the wine. Some were gorging themselves on the bread and the other "fixins". Some were not able to partake at all because the others were being gluttons.

Verses 33-34 reveal that Paul wanted to make sure they would truly understand its meaning and to wait for each other as they partook. The bottom line to the problem: they didn't understand the deal with Communion. Paul took time to reveal four major reasons behind Communion. He explained that it was more than a meal, it was a memorial. When we partake of the Communion together…

1. **REMEMBER (vs 23-25) what Jesus went through for you.**
2. **REJOICE (vs 26) that He died for you and will return because He didn't stay dead.**
3. **REPENT (v 27-29) of any sin you may have willingly committed this past week.**
4. **RECONCILE (v29) yourself back to God and to any brother or sister with whom you're broken a relationship.**

Please note that you do not HAVE to take this every Sunday. Jesus said we should remember Him "whenever" we take it. If you are out of fellowship with God and do not feel comfortable in taking due to the warning of Scripture, that's okay. Use that time to repent and be reconciled and partake again next time. If you decided not to partake, may no man judge you. This is a time for judging ourselves. Paul said if we judge ourselves, we shall not fall under God's judgment of this sin of taking in an unworthy manner.

Why We Believe in Prayer (Part I) (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

Prayer must be the foundation of all we do in our lives. We teach people to develop a personal deep prayer life that will bear fruit plus see lives changed. (James 5:16) Prayer meetings are on Tuesdays from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. and Sundays from 10:00 – 10:40 a.m.

FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE: James 5:16 & John 16:23-24

I. WHAT PRAYER IS

A. Prayer defined

1. To make requests to God
2. Any spiritual communion with God
3. Talking with our heavenly Father

B. How to Pray

1. Realize you are communicating with God
2. Always pray to the Father in Jesus name
   a. John 16:23-24
   b. John 14:13-14
3. Pray according to the Word (I John 5:14-15)

II. STEPS TO ANSWERED PRAYER

A. Decide What You Want From God (Psalms 37:5)

B. Find the Scriptures That Relate to Your Prayer

1. Joshua 1:8
2. The Word shows God's will

C. Ask God For the Thing You Want on the Basis of the Word

1. Isaiah 43:26
2. Matthew 6:8; 7:7-8

D. Believe That You Receive

1. Mark 11:23-24
2. Mark 9:23

E. Refuse to Doubt

1. James 4:7
2. James 1:8

F. Meditate on the Promises of God

1. Proverbs 4:20-22
2. Joshua 1:8

G. Give God the Praise

1. Philippians 4:6
2. I Thessalonians 5:18

Why We Believe in Prayer (Part 2) (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

SCRIPTURE: John 14:6

I. SIX MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN PRAYER

A. The Name of Jesus is the Key to Unlock Heaven
B. We Have Been Given the Right to Use Jesus' Name
C. Answered Prayer Brings Joy

II. MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN PRAYER

A. Praying to Father in Jesus' Name
1. John 16:23-24
2. John 14:6

B. Believe That You Received
1. Mark 11:24
2. I John 5:14-15

C. Forgive When You Pray
1. Mark 11:25
2. Forgiveness is a key element

D. Depend on the Holy Spirit in Your Prayer Life
1. Romans 8:26-27
2. I Corinthians 14:14-15

E. Learn to Intercede
1. Romans 8:26
2. Groaning not uttered naturally

F. Build Yourself Up in Prayer
1. Jude 1:20
2. I Corinthians 4:4

III. CONCLUSION

A. Forgiveness is a Necessary Element in Prayer
B. You Need to Intercede
C. Praying in the Spirit Builds You Up

Why We Believe In the Rapture of the Church (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

The "**Rapture**" is when Jesus calls the Saints to meet Him in Heaven. In an instant, the dead in Christ will rise and all Believers will go to be with the Lord.

> *"I Thes. 4:15-17) "For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will be no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be **CAUGHT UP** together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall alwavs be with the Lord".*

"**Caught up**" comes from the Greek word, "**harpazo."** In the translation process, the Greek word was translated into the Latin word, "**rapturo**" from which we get the word, "**rapture".**

I. TYPES OF THE RAPTURE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

1. Enoch-caught up to Heaven without dying (Gen. 5:24)
2. Elijah-went up in the whirlwind without dying (II Kings 2:11)
3. Noah-rescued from the great flood judgment that destroyed everyone else on the earth (Genesis 7)
4. Lot and his family are rescued from judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19)

II. WHO WILL GO UP IN THE RAPTURE?

1. Christ comes for His own (John 14:3; I Thes. 4:15-17)
2. Those who have died in the Lord
3. Those who are saved

III. WHEN WILL THE RAPTURE TAKE PLACE?

1. At any second (I Thes. 5:1-4)
2. Before the seven years of Tribulation (I Thes. 1:10)
3. The Church is not mentioned after the 4th Chapter of Revelation which immediately precedes the beginning of the Seven Years of Tribulation. The Church is again mentioned in Revelation 19 when Jesus returns with His Saints.

IV. HOW IS THE RAPTURE DIFFERENT THAN THE "SECOND COMING?"

1. The Rapture happens before the Great Tribulation
2. Jesus calls the Saints to meet Him in the air
3. The Second Coming happens at the end of the Great Tribulation
4. The Saints return with Him to rule and reign on the earth for 1000 years

> ***There are 76 prophecies of the Rapture in the New Testament***

Note: There are other opinions concerning the Rapture and Second Coming but this is the general belief within Charismatic circles of the proper translation and interpretation of Scripture.

Why We Believe In the Second Coming of Christ

(Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

The first time Christ came to earth as a babe and lived until He was crucified and His Body was put in the tomb. On the third day He rose again and later ascended into Heaven. The second time Christ comes to the earth, He will come as a Mighty Warrior and King, defeat all of His enemies and establish His Kingdom on Earth.

"This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11)

I. SIGNS PRECEDING THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

A. *Israel will become a nation again which happened on May 14,1948 (Matt. 24:32-35). The "fig tree" always represents Israel.*
B. *False prophets (Luke 21:8)*
C. *Wars and rumors of wars, nation rising against nation (Luke 21:9)*
D. *The coming back together of Rome (Europe – European Economic Community) (Daniel 2:1-45 – The Golden Image represents the major Kingdoms of the Age. The feet of iron and clay represent the final form of Gentile world dominion – a revived Roman or Western power led by the Antichrist)*
E. *Increase in natural disasters (Luke 21:11)*
F. *Technology for the Mark of the Beast "666" (Rev. 13:16-17)*
G. *Actual Mark of the Beast will have been required for anyone desiring to buy or sell (on forehead or hand). Eventual great persecution of those who do not take it toward the end of the Tribulation period*
H. *People who accept Christ and refuse to deny the faith will be beheaded (Rev. 6:9)*
I. *Rise of the False Prophet (leader of world-wide religion (Rev. 13:11)*
J. *Great immorality, violence and rebellion (Matt. 24:37)*
K. *Gospel of the Kingdom preached all over the world (Matt. 24:14)*
L. *Horrific judgments will have taken place*
M. *Abomination of Desolation will have been set up in Jerusalem (Dan. 9:11)*
N. *Iraq (Babylon) will have been destroyed in an hour (Rev. 18:17)*
O. *Two Witnesses (Men of God) will have been martyred in Jerusalem. The whole world will have watched them be resurrected on the third day and arise to Heaven (Rev. 11:11-14)*
P. *Armies surround Israel to invade it (Ezekiel 38, Rev. 16:14-16)*

II. WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

A. *Christ comes in Great Power (Matt. 24:29-30, Rev. 19:11-16)*
B. *Christ will descend on the Mt. of Olives with His Saints (Zechariah 14:4)*
C. *The Battle of Armageddon (Zechariah 14:2)*
D. *Christ will destroy all enemies of Israel with the Sword of His Mouth (Rev. 19:15)*
E. *The False Prophet and Antichrist will be thrown into the Lake of Fire (Rev. 19:20)*
F. *Satan will be locked in a pit for 1000 years (Rev. 20:2)*
G. *Christ will establish His Kingdom (Zechariah 14:9)*

III. WHO WILL BE WITH CHRIST AT THE SECOND COMING

A. *All saints who have died and been resurrected. All of the saints who were "raptured," armies of angels. (Rev. 19:14)*

Why We Believe in the Renewed Mind (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:1-2

I. THE RENEWED MIND

A. The Mind

1. You are a new spirit being
2. Your mind must be changed and renewed
   Ephesians 4:23
3. Your mind is the battleground (II Corinthians 10:3-5)

B. The Mind Defined

1. Nous—your intellect and your will
2. The housing for all your mental faculties
3. Perception, understanding, judgment, determination, feelings

C. How satan attacks the mind

1. II Corinthians 10:3-5
2. The progression—thoughts, imaginations, strongholds
   Hebrews 12:3

D. How to renew the mind

1. Ephesians 4:23—constantly renewed
2. Fresh mental attitude
3. Adopt new attitude of mind (Godspeeds)
4. Romans 12:1-2
   a. Beseech—call that produces results
   b. Not conformed to this age and standards
   c. Transformed by renewal of mind

II. THE RENEWED MIND

A. Must have unchangeable standard

1. Psalms 119:89
2. I Peter 1:25

B. God's Word will renew your mind

1. I Peter 1:23—lives and abides forever; incorruptible
2. Hebrews 4:12
3. Ephesians 5:26—sanctified by Word
4. John 17:17—sanctified by Word

Why We Believe in the "Triune" (3-Part) Make-up of Man

(Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

SCRIPTURE: I Thessalonians 5:23

I. THE MAKE-UP OF MAN

The Nature of God

A. God is triune

1. Father (John 14:10)
2. Son (John 14:13)
3. Holy Spirit (John 14:26)

Genesis 1:26

a. God – Elohiem – plural term…
b. Fullness of God

B. The Nature of Man

1. Created in God's image and class
2. Psalms 82:6 (angels – Elohiem)
3. John 10:34

Man a triune being (I Thessalonians 5:23)

a. spirit
b. soul
c. body

C. Your Spirit Is the Real You

1. I Peter 3:4
2. Romans 7:22
3. I Corinthians 2:14
4. II Corinthians 4:16
5. Luke 16:19-25 – a clear picture

II. CONCLUSION

A. God Is A Triune Being
B. Man Is Created in God's Image (triune)

Why We Believe in the God Kind of Faith - Part 1

(Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

Scripture - Hebrews 11:1

I. WHAT FAITH IS

A. Faith defined

1. Hebrews 11:1
   a. Gives substance to hope
   b. Evidence of unseen
2. Faith – pistis (Vine)
   a. Firm persuasion
   b. Conviction based upon hearing

B. Heart Faith

1. Mark 11:23:24
   a. It is always now
   b. Looks at the unseen (Hebrews 11:3)
2. II Corinthians 4:18
3. II Corinthians 5:7
4. Mental assent
   a. I know the Word says, but…
   b. It does not work for me

C. Faith Contrasted

1. Thomas' faith (John 20:24-29)
2. Abraham's faith (John 20:24-29)
   a. Believes the Word only
   b. Calls non-existent things into being
   c. Fully persuaded God's promises are true
   d. Receives the desired results

II. CONCLUSION

A. Faith gives substance to hope
B. Faith is of the Spirit not the mind
C. Faith is being fully persuaded God cannot lie

Why We Believe in the God Kind of Faith – Part II

(Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

Scripture – Romans 12:3

I. WHERE AND HOW FAITH COMES

A. Where faith originates

1. Hebrews 11:6
   a. God is a faith God (Genesis1)
   b. He requires faith
2. It is the nature of God
   a. I John 4:8
   b. Galatians 5:6

B. How Faith comes

1. Gift from God
   a. Romans 12:3
   b. Ephesians 2:8-9
2. By hearing the Word (Romans 10:17)
3. It can be added to
   a. II Peter 1:1-8
   b. II Thessalonians 1:3

C. Faith is a Spiritual force

1. God is a Spirit (John 4:24)
2. You are a Spirit (I Thessalonians 5:23)
3. God's Word is Spirit (John 6:63)
4. The Word divides between Spirit and soul (Hebrews 4:12)
5. It is of the heart (Mark 11:23)

II. CONCLUSION

A. Faith comes from God
B. It is imparted at salvation
C. Everyone has the same measure

Why We Believe in Righteousness (Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

Scripture – I Corinthians 1:30

I. THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

A. Terms defined

1. Righteous – Dikaios (Vine)
   a. Just, without prejudice or partiality
   b. Justice, that which is in accordance with right
2. Righteousness – Dikaiosunē (Vine)
   a. The character or quality of being just
   b. Rightwiseness
   c. Right actions (used by Paul)
   d. Right relationship with God (a gift)

B. We have been made righteous

1. I Corinthians 1:30
   a. Jesus is made unto us
   b. Righteousness
2. Righteousness come by faith
   a. Romans 3:21-24
   b. Righteousness is by faith in Christ

II. HOW GOD MADE US RIGHTEOUS

A. On the ground of faith

1. II Corinthians 5:21
2. Two aspects of this
   a. God declared us righteous
   b. We are made new creations
3. Romans 5:1
   a. Justified-righteous
4. Romans 4:3-5
   a. Faith counted for righteousness
   b. Not based on works

B. Jesus is our Righteousness

1. Romans 3:26
   a. He Himself….righteousness of him that hath faith
   b. Jesus is our righteousness
2. I Corinthians 1:30

IV. CONCLUSION

A. We are righteous by faith in Christ
B. God Himself is our righteousness
C. We stand clean and pure before God

Why We Believe In the Person of the Holy Spirit

(Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/disciple)

> "And there are three that bear witness in heaven: The Father, The Word and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one." (I John 5:7)

I. The Holy Spirit is NOT an "IT." The Holy Spirit is a person just like the Father and the Son. He has all of the attributes of a person.

A. He can speak, see and hear. (Matt. 10:19,20;Acts 13:2 I Tim 4:1; Rev. 2:7)

B. The Holy Spirit is understanding, intelligent and wise

1. (I Cor. 2:10-11) "But God hath revealed them unto us by HIS SPIRIT; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of man, save the spirit of man which is in him; Even so the things of God knoweth no man, the the Spirit of God.
   a. The Holy Spirit teaches (John 14:26)
   b. The Holy Spirit makes intercession (Rom. 8:7)
   c. He is our Guide (John 16:13)
   d. He comforts (John 15:26)
   e. He builds us up (Jude 20)
   f. He convicts of sin (John 16:8)
      i. "*Conviction"* brings sin to our attention and points us to Christ for forgiveness. God always gives us hope.
      ii. Satan "*condemns"* giving people no hope and giving them a sense of despair.
   g. He draws us to Christ John 6:44,45)
   h. He can be resisted (Acts 7:51)
   i. He can be lied to (Acts 5:3,4)
   j. He can be grieved (Eph. 4:30)
   k. He can be quenched (I Thessalonians. 5:19)
   l. He is our justifier and sanctifier (I Cor. 6:11)

II. The Holy Spirit is present all through the Bible

A. Creation

(Genesis 1:2) "The earth was without form and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep and the SPIRIT OF GOD was hovering over the face of the waters."

1. Empowered judges, kings, prophets and priests (Judges 6:34)
2. Impregnates Mary with Jesus Christ (Luke 1:35)
3. Present at Jesus' water baptism (Matt. 3:16)
4. Led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil (Matt. 4:1)
5. Empowered Jesus' ministry (Luke 4:18,19)
6. Raised Jesus from the dead (Acts 2:24)

7. Christ commanded disciples to wait in Jerusalem to wait for the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4)
8. The disciples were baptized with the Holy Spirit on Pentecost (Acts 2:4)
9. The Holy Spirit is extremely active in the Church. He is mentioned 60 times in the book of Acts alone.
10. He empowered believers to lead people to Christ, form new churches, perform signs and wonders, take authority of the demonic, heal the sick and perform other miracles through His Baptism (Acts 1:8)
11. He gave Gifts to the Church (I Cor. 12:4-11)
12. The Holy Spirit seals us ((Eph. 1:13)
13. He wrote the Scriptures through inspired men (II Cor. 3:16)
14. In the last chapter of the Bible, He extends an invitation:

    (Rev. 22:17) "THE SPIRIT and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."

III. One Unforgivable Sin

A. (Mark 4:28-29) "Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but I subject to eternal condemnation."

Note from NEW SPIRIT FILLED LIFE BIBLE: "The unpardonable sin is not so much an act as a state of sin, a settled attitude that regards good as evil and evil as good. The scribes had repeatedly witnessed the deeds and heard the teachings of Jesus, but their willful blindness to the truth had resulted in such spiritual insensibility that they could no longer recognize the truth and were immune to its convicting power."

Once the Holy Spirit is rejected, He no longer can lead people to Christ; therefore, there is no salvation.

- **Why We Believe In Finding your place in the body of Christ**
  (**Read/Study Online: victoryccc.org/**disciple)

1. The church is like a physical body.
I Corinthians 12:12 **"For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ".**

2. Each part of the body is needed for the body to be complete...I *Corinthians12:14-22*
God decides what part He wants each person to play.
Some parts are visible, other parts are usually unseen, but equally needed.

Ephesians 4:11-12	***I Corinthians 12:27-28***
Apostles	**Apostles**
Prophets	**Prophets**
Evangelists	**miracles/healings**
Pastors	**administrations**
Teachers	**Teachers**
	HELPS

2. God puts the helper with right along with the "visible" gifts.
If this is God's model for what He wants for a church, it is also His design for the specific parts of the church.
My desire is a healthy church.

4. You need to be part of something bigger than yourself.
Galatians 6:7 **"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap".**
If you take care of God's house, He'll take care of yours.
If you help His body, He'll help your body.
You're not just serving, you're investing in others, as well as yourself and your future.
H having
E enough
L loving
P people
S serving

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