

## FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH – LESSON 1

This lesson sets forth the basic truth of the gospel in a non-denominational manner. It is designed to direct students toward God's plan for their lives and to encourage fellowship in Christ Jesus.

### SECTION ONE – MAN IS A SINNER



ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE FOUND IN ROMANS 3:9-24.

1. (Romans 3:10-11) How many are righteous? \_\_\_\_\_.  
How many are seeking after God? \_\_\_\_\_.
2. (Romans 3:13-15) How is the unrighteous man described?
  - Throat: \_\_\_\_\_;
  - Tongue: \_\_\_\_\_;
  - Lips: \_\_\_\_\_;
  - Mouth: \_\_\_\_\_;
  - Feet: \_\_\_\_\_.
3. (Romans 3:9-11) Is there anything about the unrighteous man with which God is pleased?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. What is man's natural standing before God? (Romans 3:23) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. How does the unrighteous man become justified? (Romans 3:24) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE FOUND IN EPHESIANS 2:1-3.

6. (Ephesians 2:1) In what ways are men dead spiritually? They are "dead in \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_".
7. (Ephesians 2:2; 4:27; 6:11; 2 Corinthians 4:4) Who is the "prince of the power of the air"?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
8. (Ephesians 2:3) What are men by nature before they are "quickenened," or "made alive" in Christ? \_\_\_\_\_.

## STOP HERE!

We will go on with our study in a moment, but would you stop and consider what the Scripture portions you have just studied say about each of us? We ask you to do this because it is necessary for a person to see his need for a Saviour. Have you faced your lost condition? Have you seen your need to trust Christ as your Saviour from sin? We pray that your answer is YES!

Read the gospel (good news) in 1 Corinthians 15:1-6, then read Ephesians 1:7 and 2 Corinthians 5:17. Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay the price for your sin. Through faith in Him, His blood will cleanse you from sin and make you a new creature in Christ.

## ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE FOUND IN ROMANS 6:23.

9. A. What is the wages (payment) of sin? \_\_\_\_\_.  
B. What is the gift of God? \_\_\_\_\_.

Death means separation from God – Hell.  
Eternal life means to be with God – Heaven.

10. Through Whom does the free gift of God come? \_\_\_\_\_.  
11. Have you received this free gift? \_\_\_\_\_.

## ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE FOUND IN 2 THESSALONIANS 1:7-12.

12. (2 Thessalonians 1:8) Upon whom will Christ's vengeance come? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
13. (2 Thessalonians 1:9) How long will they be punished? \_\_\_\_\_.  
14. In verse 9 we read of sinners who shall be punished, while in verse 10 we read of the blessings to the saints (believers). What was the prayer Paul prayed for the believers in 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

## ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE FOUND IN ROMANS 5:1-8.

15. (Romans 5:1) What do we have by being justified by faith? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
16. (Romans 5:2) In what do we rejoice? \_\_\_\_\_.  
17. (Romans 5:3) As believers we are to \_\_\_\_\_ in tribulation or trouble.  
18. (Romans 5:3) What does God use to bring about perseverance? \_\_\_\_\_.  
19. (Romans 5:6,8) What was our condition when Christ died for us? \_\_\_\_\_.

ANSWER TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTION IS FOUND IN ROMANS 8:35-39.

20. According to Romans 8:38-39, what can cut us off from God's love? Circle the right answer:

- |                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| (1) Death               | (2) Danger  |
| (3) Supernatural powers | (4) Nothing |

The devil delights in keeping us uncertain about our salvation.

God, through His Word, offers positive assurance of salvation and eternal life

MEMORY VERSE FOR SECTION ONE IS ROMANS 3:23

## SECTION TWO – THE WORD OF GOD



1. Romans 3:9-24 reveals that man is totally depraved; that the LAW has brought condemnation upon sinful man; and that all have sinned and come short of God's glory.
2. Ephesians 2:1-3 and also Ephesians 5:6 describe even further that man by nature is a child of wrath (God's wrath) and spiritually dead. Only Jesus Christ can make a person spiritually alive.
3. Romans 6:23 tells us that the penalty for sin is death and that God's gift is eternal life through Jesus Christ.
4. 2 Thessalonians 1:7-12 discloses that mankind can be divided into two classes: those who are destined for God's wrath and those who are destined for God's glory.
5. Romans 5:1-8 explains how God demonstrated His love toward us while we were still sinners when Christ died in our place, and that we have peace with God through faith in Christ.
6. Romans 8:35-39 tells us that nothing can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1. (2 Timothy 3:16a) How were the Scriptures given to us? \_\_\_\_\_.
2. (1 Corinthians 2:14) The natural man without the Holy Spirit cannot understand the things of God. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_.
3. How does Romans 8:9 describe the spiritual man? \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
How does this verse describe the natural man? \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What happens when the natural man becomes the spiritual man according to 2 Corinthians 5:17? \_\_\_\_\_.

5. To be changed from the natural man to the spiritual man, what does Acts 16:31 say we should do? \_\_\_\_\_.
6. What does Romans 10:9 say we must do to be saved? \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Which are you, a spiritual man or a natural man? \_\_\_\_\_.

READ THE GOSPEL, THE "GOOD NEWS" IN 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-6.

8. From whom is the gospel hidden? (2 Corinthians 4:3) \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Who has blinded unbelievers? (2 Corinthians 4:4) \_\_\_\_\_.

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 15:21-22 AND ROMANS 5:12.

10. Who brought sin and death into the world? \_\_\_\_\_.  
Why has death been passed on to all men? \_\_\_\_\_.
11. (Romans 5:8) How did God show His love for us, even while we were still sinners? \_\_\_\_\_.
12. (Ephesians 1:17,18) How is God able to open the eyes of your understanding? \_\_\_\_\_.
13. According to Titus 3:5, can we work to be saved? \_\_\_\_\_. Why did He save us? \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_. Through what means did He save us? \_\_\_\_\_.

READ EPHESIANS 2:8,9; 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-6; ROMANS 1:16.

14. Think about the last few questions you have answered before you answer TRUE or FALSE to the following:
 

a. To be saved one must first join a church.	TRUE ____ FALSE ____
b. To be saved one must first be baptized in water.	TRUE ____ FALSE ____
c. To be saved one must promise to live a good, clean, moral life.	TRUE ____ FALSE ____
d. To be saved one must keep the Law of Moses	TRUE ____ FALSE ____
e. To be saved one must live by the Golden Rule.	TRUE ____ FALSE ____
f. To be saved one must believe in the gospel of Christ	TRUE ____ FALSE ____

"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Many people believe that God requires them to be righteous, living a good, moral life before they can be saved. Jesus said while He was here on earth, "I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners (Matthew 9:13b)." Later, from heaven where He is now seated at the right hand of God the Father, He sent word to the Church, the Body of Christ, through Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles. He spoke of justification.

15. (Romans 5:1) How are we justified? \_\_\_\_\_.  
What do we have when we are justified? \_\_\_\_\_.
16. (Galatians 2:16) On what basis is it impossible to be justified? \_\_\_\_\_.

READ ROMANS 3:28.

17. What conclusion can be drawn from this verse? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Hebrews 4:12 teaches us: "For the Word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

Brother Irving D. Larson wrote the following article with the title "SHARP OR DULL TOOLS?"

One of the problems with a lot of us do-it-yourself carpenters is that we try to do our jobs with tools that are not as sharp as they should be. Any first-class workman knows that a sharp tool is the first step in doing a good job, and also makes the work much easier, and as a result, much more pleasant. I like the story about the big old woodsman who was given a chain saw for the first time, and he cut two cords of firewood with it on his first day out. However, the next day he cut a lot more with it after someone had shown him how to start the engine. Anyone who has ever tried to chop wood soon learns that it is hard to make up with muscle for the lack of a sharp blade on the axe. There is a verse, Ecclesiastes 10:10, which says, "If the axe is dull and he does not sharpen its edge, then he must exert more strength. Wisdom has the advantage of giving success." There is a lesson for us as believers in this. We have a sharp tool at our disposal, for the Word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword. And yet, how often do we try to convince people with our own arguments and logic, rather than just using God's Word. We should let the Scriptures penetrate into the heart! Paul's letter to Timothy talks about "a workman who does not need to be ashamed..." May we be that kind of workmen.

We have learned the following so far in this lesson:

1. That God's truth is revealed in His Word.
2. That Scripture reveals there is a natural man and he can become a spiritual man.
3. That the change from a natural to spiritual man is to become a "new creature."
4. That our justification is by faith in Jesus Christ.
5. That God revealed this "justification by faith" to man through the apostle Paul.

After we trust Jesus Christ alone as our personal Saviour from going to hell, we are "babes" in Christ needing to develop and grow in our new life. God has given us the Bible to help us spiritually mature. In studying the Bible the wise student will remember to pray, asking the Father to open the eyes of his understanding.

MEMORY VERSE FOR SECTION TWO IS EPHESIANS 2:8-9

### SECTION THREE – THE IMPACT OF SIN



REFER TO ROMANS 5:12.

1. a. How did sin enter into the world? \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. What was the result of sin's entrance into the world? \_\_\_\_\_.

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," (Romans 3:23).

REFER TO ROMANS 6:23.

2. a. What is the wages of sin? \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. What is the gift of God? \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Through Whom do we receive this gift? \_\_\_\_\_.

#### SPECIAL READING:

Stop here and read the entire first chapter of Romans. Note God's statement concerning sinful man, and the condemnation of those who "suppress (or restrain) the truth in unrighteousness."

REFER TO ROMANS 1:21-25.

3. In your own words explain what happens to the person whose focus is not on God. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. (Romans 6:21) What is the fruit (result) of the life of self and sin? \_\_\_\_\_.
5. (Galatians 5:19-21) What are the works of the flesh as listed in the Scriptures? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
6. (Galatians 5:22-23) What is the fruit of the Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

7. If someone asked you how to have eternal life, what verse or verses could you use to share with him/her? Circle your choice or choices:

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Romans 5:8

Matthew 7:12

Romans 10:9

NOTE:

(Ephesians 2:1) To be “quickened” according to the Scriptures, means to be “made alive.” This happened through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5).

8. (1 Thessalonians 2:12) After a person is “quickened” or “made alive”, what does God expect of him/her? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
9. (1 Thessalonians 2:13) For the Thessalonian believers, the “worthy walk” began when they “received the Word of God.” What does God’s Word do for those who believe? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
10. What instructions does 2 Timothy 2:15 have for us?  
a. \_\_\_\_\_;  
b. \_\_\_\_\_;  
c. \_\_\_\_\_.

Would we be “walking worthy of God” if we obeyed these instructions? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

NOTE:

To “rightly divide” Scripture, one must recognize that God has not always dealt with people in the same way throughout history. There are certain changes that have taken place over time as God progressively reveals His plan to man. The Old Testament Jews had the prophets, the New Testament Jews had the Twelve apostles, but the Gentiles have another example to follow.

11. The Lord, Jesus Christ, has appointed a “pattern” or “example” for us to follow.  
a. Who is speaking? (1 Timothy 1:1) \_\_\_\_\_.  
b. Who is the “pattern” or “example” Christ has given us? (1 Timothy 1:16) \_\_\_\_\_.  
c. What does he call himself? (1 Timothy 1:15) \_\_\_\_\_.
12. a. What does Paul say he is? (Ephesians 3:1) \_\_\_\_\_.  
b. Who was made the minister to the Gentiles? (Romans 15:16) \_\_\_\_\_.  
c. Who made him the minister? (Romans 15:15,16) \_\_\_\_\_.
13. What is the instruction for believers in 1 Corinthians 11:1? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
14. In what way are we to follow Paul? Explain Philippians 4:9 in your own words. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

15. Why must the “pattern” or “example”, be Paul instead of some other apostle? Read all of these verses before you answer: Romans 11:13; Romans 15:15-16; Galatians 2:7-8 and Ephesians 3:1-3, 7-9. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

NOTE:

In past times God appointed certain men to be the leaders of His chosen people, Israel. One of the greatest of these leaders was Moses, who brought the people out of Egypt by way of the Red Sea. The Old Testament tells how the people often rebelled against this chosen man of God. They were disobedient to God, refusing to follow His appointed leader. Observe that Moses was chosen of God to be the Lawgiver to Israel. Paul was chosen to reveal a special new message which is called “the revelation of the mystery.” Compare Exodus 20:1-17 with Romans 16:25.

16. (Ephesians 3:8,9) What is God’s divine purpose in having a special messenger for the Gentiles? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

17. What is the “mystery of Christ” according to Ephesians 3:6? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

NIV users:

The word, “Israel,” does not appear in the Greek. What is implied is that Gentiles are now equal with believing Jews.

18. Compare Ephesians 3:8,9 with Matthew 10:5,6. Christ, in His earthly ministry, commanded the Twelve Apostles not to go where? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Even in the early chapters of the Book of Acts, Peter and the other apostles preached to the Jews only (Acts 2:14, 22; 3:12). By revelation from the risen Christ, Paul wrote for all men. This is a change in God’s relationship with mankind.

19. God had a different plan for Israel than He does for the Church of today. The commission for the Church of this age is clearly revealed in 2 Corinthians 5:18-20. What do these verses say? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.



**GOD'S MESSAGE FOR TODAY:**

"For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek (Gentile); for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him (Romans 10:12);"

Remember that the Bible is not a book we can read casually in idle moments and so learn the will of God and the purpose of God for us.

We must "STUDY TO SHOW OURSELVES APPROVED UNTO GOD," and this means a daily, regular, consistent study of the greatest book ever written.

MEMORY VERSE FOR SECTION THREE IS ROMANS 10:12

**Use the space below for any Questions or Comments:**

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Which version(s) of the Bible did you use to complete this Bible lesson:

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