

Faith Principles Overview and Loved by God

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Faith Principles Studies

- Loved by God
- The Word of Faith
- Discipleship and Lordship
- Salvation and the Spirit
- Repentance
- The Cross and Grace
- The Church and the Kingdom
- Confessions of Faith

Additional Resources

- Counting the Cost
- Baptism and False Doctrines
- Misconceptions of the Holy Spirit
- The Coming of the Kingdom
- Chemical Recovery

Faith Principles Syllabus

Word of Faith

South Cities: Sun, Jan 10 • 9 AM @ Marine
Downtown: Sun, Jan 10 • 10:30 AM @ Hayworth

Overview

Men: Wed, Jan 13 • 7:30 PM @ Marine
Women: Thu, Jan 14 • 7:30 PM @ Marine

Salvation and the Spirit

Marrieds: Couples Enrichment by House Churches
Campus/Singles: Wed, Jan 20 • 7:30 PM, South @ Marine
..... Downtown @ Hayworth Theatre

Discipleship and Lordship

South Cities: Sun, Jan 24 • 9 AM @ Marine Bldg
Downtown: Sun, Jan 24 • 10:30 AM @ Hayworth Theatre

Repentance/Cross

Marrieds: Couples Enrichment by House Churches
Campus/Singles: Wed, Jan 20 • 7:30 PM, South @ Marine
..... Downtown @ Hayworth Theatre

The Church/Kingdom

South Cities: Sun, Jan 31 • 9 AM @ Marine Bldg
Downtown: Sun, Jan 31 • 10:30 AM @ Hayworth Theatre

Memory Work

1. Galatians 5:6
2. Romans 10:17
3. Romans 10:9-10
4. Acts 2:38
5. Ephesians 4:3
6. 1 Peter 4:8
7. Define true, saving faith
8. 1 Way of Salvation
9. Names of the Faith Principles Bible Studies
10. The Books of the Bible in Order

10 Overview Questions

1. What kind of church are we? Faith Based Church
2. What do we focus on? Faith expressing itself through love
3. What is our mission? To bring true, saving faith and real love to a lost world
4. What two Scriptures encapsulate how we live? Galatians 5:6, Ephesians 4:3
5. What is saving faith and what are the accompanying Scriptures? Through true, saving faith

Hear (**Romans 10:17**)..... Related Studies: Loved by God, Word of Faith

Believe (**Romans 10:9-10**) Related Studies: Word of Faith

Obey through

- **Repentance** (**Acts 2:38**).. Related Studies: Salvation & the Spirit, Repentance, The Cross and Grace
- **Lordship/being a Disciple** (**Romans 10:9-10**) Related Studies: Discipleship and Lordship, The Kingdom and the Church
- **Baptism** (**Acts 2:38**)..... Related Studies: Salvation & the Spirit

6. What two Scriptures encapsulate salvation? Acts 2:38, Romans 10:9-10, 17
7. What are the two other popular views of Christianity? How do we differ?

Ritual Based: Certain actions are required to save you (older denominations)

Belief Based: Only belief or "accepting Jesus" saves you, no actions (Protestant Reformation)

Faith Based: True saving faith is our belief completed by our actions as we Hear, Believe, and Obey through Repentance, Lordship and Baptism

8. How do we live saved? By loving others
9. What 4 Scriptures support this? 1 Peter 4:8, 1 John 3:18, 1 John 1:5-10, 1 John 4:19-20
10. What does being fruitful mean? *Sowing* with God and with man (see below)

Sowing with God and with Man

Sow with God

- Be devoted to praying for open doors and pray for our behaviors (Colossians 4:2-6)
- Sow to please the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-6:10)
- How are you striving to live by the Spirit rather than the sinful nature by being consistently open with righteous people?
- How are you striving to walk like Christ by persevering in doing good, especially by staying close to other disciples?

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Sow with Others

We sow with our example and words, but we cannot control how people respond

We act to please God by loving people, but our actions do not "make" someone open. Our actions help reveal who is open

- What it takes for someone to be ready for baptism:
 - **Knowledge:** Accurate teachings of salvation
 - **Heart:** Broken and willing spirit motivated by the love of Christ
 - **Character:** The capability to live out the Scriptures' call
- God makes things grow. We cannot control someone's readiness. Of the three qualities above, we can control only certain aspects of knowledge:
 - *the accuracy of Scriptures we teach*
 - *our availability to people who are open (we need to team to be available)*

God calls us to sow with people primarily by speaking the truth in love

Love: Build RELATIONSHIPS with people

- Meet them. WE CANNOT CONTROL WHO IS OPEN, BUT WE CAN CONTROL HOW MANY FRIENDS WE TRY TO MAKE
- Ask God to open their hearts
- Connect with them by following up and inviting them to our hospitality events

Speak the truth by sharing from your life, asking questions, listening, and clarifying.

Connect with people by asking good questions and making them feel understood

- Feeling connected in a loving environment helps as they examine their salvation
 - Listen to their life story and share yours as well
 - Share about how studying the Bible has helped you
 - At any and every opportunity, ask them if they would be open to studying the Bible
- Ask: How much do you know about the Bible or how well do you know the Bible?
- Clarify, "It sounds like you don't know much about the Bible."
- Ask: What is your religious background? If they are unclear, ask more specific questions, like:
- How were you saved/become a Christian?
 - How do you know if someone is saved?.....What do you think a Christian is?
 - What does repentance mean to you?.....What does baptism mean to you?
 - What is the difference between belief and faith?
 - Belief Based people usually have 1 of 2 responses:
 - Option 1: No difference: belief and faith are the same
 - Option 2: Belief is when you know it
 - Faith is when you REALLY know it or FEEL it
 - It can possibly or probably show in your action
 - Ultimately, you are saved when you REALLY know it or FEEL it

- Clarify, "It sounds like you go to a ritual or belief based church, because you believe..."

- Offer to explain, "I go to a faith based church. Would you like to know the difference?"

Explain urgency:

Our goal is to provide people the clearest and most direct path to salvation

- What if someone kidnapped your adult child?
- How urgently would you want the police to respond? Right away!
- How would you feel if the police found your adult child, but your child would rather stay with his kidnappers? Very hurt!
- Satan has kidnapped people, and God wants us to find them. But they need to make the decision to return home
- Since we care about how God feels, we want you to urgently return to Him
- Our goal as a fellowship is to be available to you as much as you want to study

Loved by God

Optional points are marked with "◇".

Supplemental Scriptures are in parentheses ().

- What really counts in life?..... **Galatians 5:6**
 - *Faith expressing itself through love*
- Why is faith so important? **Ephesians 3:16-19**
 - It takes faith and spiritual power to experience deeply God's love
 - God's love is so expansive, it takes faith just to imagine it. It is beyond anything we have seen or experienced
- ◇ Why is God's love so important? **1 John 4:16**
- ◇ God provides what we really want in life: *Love we can rely upon and trust*
 - The need to have real love motivates much of what we do, whether it is to be successful, attractive, or powerful
- ◇ God is love, so living a godly life increases the love we experience
- ◇ God's love is perfect..... **1 John 4:17-8**
 - Living in God's love brings confidence and security
 - Experiencing the love of God drives out fear
- ◇ God's love is proven by Jesus dying for our sins **1 John 4:9-10**
 - Jesus' sacrifice always reminds us of God's unfailing love, even though circumstances change, we make mistakes, or people disappoint us.
- ◇ God's love is rare. There is nothing like the love of Christ
 - No other religion tells of a God who loves us sacrificially and graciously, despite our sins
- How do we start connecting with the love of God?..... **Hebrews 11:6**
 - We need to earnestly seek God with *faith*
- God has great plans for us! **Jeremiah 29:11-13**
 - God's plans for us are full of love, hope and prosperity
 - We must earnestly seek with all our hearts to find him
- Where should we seek the faith that connects us with the love of God?
 - The Bible: Faith comes from hearing the word of Christ..... **Romans 10:17**
 - Would you like to study the Bible and learn how to live a life of faith expressing itself through love?