

## **FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH**

*This class serves as the curriculum for our new member class; however, many people find it useful to take advantage of this class to better acquaint themselves with the **foundations of Biblical Christianity** and the History of the Christian Church. Is not uncommon for long-time members, or even individuals not interested in joining the church, to take this class. We at St Matthew pray that this resource is a blessing to you and your spiritual formation.*

*The class is broken down into ten, one-hour evening lessons. If you have any questions that arise during your study, feel free to contact St Matthew Lutheran Church at 360-457-4122.*

# Who is this God Who Cares about You?

## Evening 1

How can we know there is a God? (*Gen1:1, Psalm 19:1, Romans 1:19-20, Jeremiah 31:33, Roman 2:15, Psalm 14:1*) \_\_\_\_\_ proclaims Him, and our \_\_\_\_\_ bears witness to Him.

Beyond Him "simply existing," what teaches us who he is? (*Isaiah 55:10-11, Romans 10:13-17; 2 Timothy 3:16*) \_\_\_\_\_

How did God create everything? (*Gen 1:1, John 1:1-3*)

\_\_\_\_\_ .

Who is The ONE TRUE GOD? (*Exodus 3:14-15, John 4:24, Matthew 3:16-17, Matthew 28:19, Deuteronomy 6:4*) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is God like? (*Psalm 90:1-2, Malachi 3:6, Matthew 19:26, Psalm 139:1-4, Jeremiah 23:24, Psalm 5:4-5, Isaiah 6:3; Deuteronomy 32:4, Exodus 34:6-7, 1 John 4:8, Isaiah 46:8-9*)

What is The Law? (Mark 12:30-31) \_\_\_\_\_

What is Sin? (Psalm 51:5, Gal 5:19) \_\_\_\_\_

2 Types: \_\_\_\_\_

What is Grace? (2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

How does God care for us today? (*Isaiah 43:1-5; Matthew 6:25-34; 1 John 3:1-2*)

# What is This Word That is Living?

"I Have Good News For You"

Evening 2

What does the word "Bible" mean?

What does the word "Testament" Mean?

What is The Bible? (*Read 2 Peter 1:21 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17*) The Bible **is** the \_\_\_\_\_, inerrant

Word of God. Written by \_\_\_\_\_ men, who were \_\_\_\_\_ along by the Holy Spirit.

What is at the heart of Scripture? (*John 5:39; 20:30-31*) \_\_\_\_\_

What are the two great messages of the Bible? (*Jam, 2:10; Rom 5:6-11; 2 Cor 3:6*) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

If you only heard or read the Law, what would your impression of God be?

If you only heard or read the Gospel what would your impression of God be?

10 Commandments (*Exodus 20:2-17*) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

(*James 2:10 & Romans 5:6-11*)

# A Savior Who Does the Unthinkable

"I Have Good News For You"

Evening 3

There are over \_\_\_\_\_ verses in the Old Testament that directly promise a Savior and His Work. A few:

Micah 5:2 \_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah 7:14 \_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah 9:6 \_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah 53:5-6 \_\_\_\_\_

Genesis 3:15-17 \_\_\_\_\_

What does the word Christ or Messiah mean? \_\_\_\_\_

What is significant about Jesus' birth, name, mission? (Luke 1:28-37)

He is our \_\_\_\_\_, our \_\_\_\_\_, and our \_\_\_\_\_.

Why are there two candles on the altar? (John 1:14)

We know Jesus was man because He \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ (to name a few). We know he was true God because He \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ (to name a few).

Who killed Christ (John 10:18)? and Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Christ state of Humiliation refers to \_\_\_\_\_

Christ state of Exaltation refers to \_\_\_\_\_

What did Jesus accomplish? (Galatians 4:4-5, 1 John 3:8, 1 John 1:7)

How has Christ accomplished all this? (Romans 5:19, Isaiah 53:5, 1 Peter 2:24)

Who receives these gifts? (2 Cor 5:15; 2 Peter 2:1)

**A Spirit that Calls You**  
"I Have Good News For You"  
Evening 4

*Matthew 28:19 Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the*

\_\_\_\_\_

How do we know that the Holy Spirit is God? I.E. What are some of the Divine attributes of the Spirit?

1 Cor 3:16 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 139:7-10 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Cor 2:10 \_\_\_\_\_

Titus 3:5 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Peter 4:14 \_\_\_\_\_

What special work does the Holy Spirit do?

2 Thess 2:14 \_\_\_\_\_

Rev 22:17 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Cor 12:3 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Cor 6:11 \_\_\_\_\_

We can further summarize this by saying that he (Ps 51:13) \_\_\_\_\_ and (John 3:5-6) \_\_\_\_\_

me. He does this through (Rom 10:17) \_\_\_\_\_ and (Titus 3:5) \_\_\_\_\_.

What gifts has the Holy Spirit given you? (Not fruits from Gal 5:22-23)

\_\_\_\_\_

for help look at 1 Cor 12.

Above all, what are the Chief Gifts of the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. Why is Ezekiel 33:11 important to remember? \_\_\_\_\_

What about miraculous gifts? (Healings, rising from the dead, drinking poison, ect Mark 16:17-18)

Spiritual Gift Inventory

*<sup>NIV</sup> Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

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*<sup>NIV</sup> John 6:47 I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life.*

## Plain Water - Divine Word

"I Have Good News For You"

Evening 5

The First of 2 Sacraments, (Note the word sacrament means mystery. And we identify sacraments as an act instituted by God for the forgiveness of sins, which is conveyed through an earthly element united by the Word.

*Is Baptism an option? Matthew 28:18-20 ( Yes or No )*

What does the word "Baptize" mean? (Mark 7:4, Acts 22:16, 1 Peter 3:21) \_\_\_\_\_

Who should administer a Baptism? (1 Cor 4:1) usually \_\_\_\_\_, yet in emergencies \_\_\_\_\_.

*Who should be Baptized? (Look again at Matthew 28:18-20) \_\_\_\_\_.*

(John 3:5-6; Acts 2:38-39) Who needs to be Baptized? \_\_\_\_\_

Why (Eph 2:3; Romans 3:22-23) \_\_\_\_\_

What is significant about Mark 10:13-16 and Matt 18:6? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the gifts of Baptism ?

(Romans 6:3-4) 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

(Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38) 3. \_\_\_\_\_, 4. \_\_\_\_\_,

(John 3:5, Galatians 3:26-27) 5. \_\_\_\_\_.

What is the difference between Faith and Baptism?

(Ephesians 5:25-26) How can water do such great things? Who's doing the work?

(Eph 4:5) How many times do are you to get Baptized \_\_\_\_\_

What about the Thief on the Cross (Luke 23:42-43)

**The Limitless Meal**  
 "I Have Good News For You"  
 Evening 6

Baptism Saves and Lord Supper nourishes a weary soul.

Who instituted the Supper? (Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20) \_\_\_\_\_

What is the Lord's Supper? (1 Cor 11:23-29) \_\_\_\_\_

*Special note: Simply let the Bible speak for Itself.*

Read 1 Corinthians 10:10:15-16. What is the answer to Paul's question? *YES or NO*

How does the Lord's Supper bread and wine and body and blood? \_\_\_\_\_

The Lord's Supper is the Body and Blood of Christ, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ the bread and wine.

**Upon Receiving the Sacrament**

Transubstantiation			Body	Blood
Biblical Christianity	Bread	Wine	Body	Blood
Symbolism	Bread	Wine		

What are the benefits of the Lord's Supper?

- \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 22:19; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Matthew 26:28)  
*Once and \_\_\_\_\_ all, not once \_\_\_\_\_ forgiveness.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 8:31-32) where the soul is nourished the body benefits as well.
- \_\_\_\_\_ over sin and strength for a new life. (1 Peter 2:24)
- \_\_\_\_\_ of saints (1 Cor 10:17) - communal \_\_\_\_\_ of faith

What are some of the names of the Sacrament?:

- \_\_\_\_\_ : Three forms of Unity (union) with the means of grace  
*1. people to people 2. Christ to people 3. Christ to the bread and wine*
- \_\_\_\_\_ : He prepares the supper and is the supper.
- \_\_\_\_\_ : Celebration of Grace at the Altar of the Congregation
- \_\_\_\_\_ : Thanksgiving. Thankful of the gift of grace and mercy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ "Go or dismissed"... from the ending formula of the blessing as you leave the Altar.

**What about the word's "Do this in remembrance of me"?** (Refer back to 1 Cor 11:26) These words provide \_\_\_\_\_ direction, they do not \_\_\_\_\_ from previous statements.

*Is Christ re-sacrificed at communion? YES or NO*

*<sup>NIV</sup> Hebrews 10:14 because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.*

# "A Life that is Always Under Attack"

"I Have Good News For You"

Evening 7

Underline the words that stand out in the following verse: *NIV Psalm 27:4 One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.*

Try it again in your bible with Colossians 3:16

What are some of the privileges and benefits of public worship? (Romans 10:17) \_\_\_\_\_

How are we like Martha in Luke 10:39-42 \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrews 10:25 tells us that we are not to \_\_\_\_\_ meeting together... but to \_\_\_\_\_

What are 5 easy ways to increase your devotional life? 1. \_\_\_\_\_

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

4. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_

What is prayer? (Psalm 10:17) \_\_\_\_\_

How do we approach God in prayer (Heb 4:16) \_\_\_\_\_

What does James 1:6-7 tells us about doubt? \_\_\_\_\_

How are we to pray? (1 Tim 2:1-2; 1 Thess 5:16-18) \_\_\_\_\_

What about Philippians 4:6? \_\_\_\_\_

What comfort is found in the words of Isaiah 65:24? \_\_\_\_\_

How does Jesus teach us to pray?

(introduction) \_\_\_\_\_

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_\_\_

(conclusion) \_\_\_\_\_



# "Keys That Unlock Heaven"

"I Have Good News For You"

Evening 8

What is the Church? (Ephesians 2:19-21) \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 12:5 We who are \_\_\_\_\_ form \_\_\_\_\_ body, and \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to the others.

What are the Keys to the Kingdom? (Matthew 16:19) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What alone opens the doors to Heaven? \_\_\_\_\_

Who has God given the Keys to? (John 20:22-23) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Whose Keys are they? \_\_\_\_\_.

## Read 1 Peter 2:9

*(True Or False)* You are a Royal Priesthood, and the way you exercise your duties as a Royal Priest is that you come to church and sit in on a pew for an hour?

*(True Or False)* You are a Royal Priest, and the way you exercise your duties as witness to that same forgiveness that unlocked Heaven for you?

*ESV John 3:16* For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds were evil.

## **So... who are we suppose to forgive and who are we not to forgive?**

*ESV Matthew 7:6* "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you."

Acts 3:19 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 51:17 \_\_\_\_\_

**What about church discipline? (1 Cor 5:11-13; Matthew 18:15-18)** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**What is the role of the Pastor in all of this? (1 Cor 4:1)** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**(Acts 20:28)** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Heb 13:17)** \_\_\_\_\_

**"Faithful Living"**  
"I Have Good News For You"  
Evening 9

(Psalm 24:1) The \_\_\_\_\_ is the Lord's , and \_\_\_\_\_ in it, the \_\_\_\_\_  
and all \_\_\_\_\_.

(John 15:16; 2 Cor 5:15) Stewardship is a \_\_\_\_\_ .

(Luke 16:13) Stewardship shows us who our \_\_\_\_\_ is. How we manage our lives shows what  
we are \_\_\_\_\_ to.

(Matthew 25:14-15) Stewardship is not about the church \_\_\_\_\_. It is about how we  
manage our \_\_\_\_\_, our \_\_\_\_\_ and our \_\_\_\_\_.

What is your most scarce commodity? \_\_\_\_\_

How does the use of your time, talent and treasure show what are you committed to? \_\_\_\_\_

What implication does *1 Peter 4:10-11* have on our station and vocation in this life? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Read *1 Cor 10:31*)

There is the story about a little boy carrying two nickels into church. Reaching into his pocket before the service  
he realized one of the nickels was missing. "There goes the Lord's nickel!" he said to himself. How do we do  
this in our lives as we fail to do what is expected of us in Proverbs 3:9? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any guidelines? (*1 Cor 16:2; 2 Cor 9:7; Rom 12:1*) \_\_\_\_\_

What good are these guidelines? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the greatest thing we have been given to manage. (*Acts 1:8*) \_\_\_\_\_

What are the marks of being a disciple? \_\_\_\_\_

Bottom line Stewardship is about \_\_\_\_\_. (*Mark 12:41; Malachi 3:10*)

**"Life without End! Amen!"**

"I Have Good News For You"

Evening 10

What happens at death? (Ecclesiastes 12:7) \_\_\_\_\_

Discuss Luke 16:19-31 (notes) \_\_\_\_\_

In our Apostles Creed we say that "He (Jesus) descended into hell." Peter discusses this in 1 Peter 3:19. What did Jesus do there? \_\_\_\_\_

*The Basis of our Faith is found in this: "Christ has been raised from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity."*

*Here are a few stats for us.* 1 out of every 30 verses in the Bible talks about Jesus' second coming. There are at least 318 New Testament references to this event. Roughly 1/3 of the New Testament is dedicated to this reality.

120 individuals witnessed the Ascension and reported back what the angel proclaimed to them. (Acts 1:6-11)

Knowing all of this how is your life going to change? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 13:32-33)

What is going to happen on that Final and First day? (Job 19:25-27; John 5:28-29; 1 Cor 4:15-19) \_\_\_\_\_

What words jump out at you with Philippians 3:20-21? \_\_\_\_\_

What can we expect? (2 Cor 5:10; Acts 17:31; Matt 25:31-34, 41) \_\_\_\_\_

Will we recognize anyone? (Matthew 17:2-3; Luke 24:36-42) \_\_\_\_\_

What do we learn from 2 Tim 4:8? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the perpetual prayer of the Church? (Rev 22:20-21) \_\_\_\_\_

Read Rev 21:3-5 (notes) \_\_\_\_\_

This is the basis of our faith and our work.... Remember Mark 16:15-16!



## Appendix A: Law and Gospel Practice Sheet

The Law and the Gospel are tools our Lord uses to show us \_\_\_\_\_!

### Multiple Choice

#### 1. The Law tells us...

- A. what to do.
- B. what not to do.
- C. what to say.
- D. how to treat one another.
- E. All of the above

#### 2. The Gospel tells us...

- A. that we are forgiven.
- B. what to do with our forgiveness.
- C. about our hope in the coming of Christ.
- D. All of the above
- E. A and C only

True or False:

\_\_\_\_ the Law doesn't apply to us today.

\_\_\_\_ we have freedom from the law because of Christ perfectly obeying it.

\_\_\_\_ we are given forgiveness from breaking the Law through Christ's sacrifice for us.

\_\_\_\_ Christ is only one way to receive forgiveness; there are many others.

### Put our knowledge to work!

- ( L or G )      1. Love your brother as yourself.
- ( L or G )      2. Love your brother as I have Loved you.
- ( L or G )      3. You are Forgiven because of what Christ fulfilled in His earthly life.
- ( L or G )      4. You are sinful and deserve eternal damnation.
- ( L or G )      5. Because Christ Redeemed you, we must act according to our Faith.
- ( L or G )      6. God is always with us.
- ( L or G )      7. **Heb 13:5** "I will never leave you nor forsake you."
- ( L or G )      8. **Rev. 21:4** "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more."
- ( L or G )      9. **Gal 5:1** "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery."
- ( L or G )      10. **Matthew 26:28** This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

## **Appendix B: Spiritual Gift Inventory**

Navigate to [stmatthewportangeles.org](http://stmatthewportangeles.org) and under the “online resource” tab find the link to the Spiritual Gift Inventory PDF file. Download and print.