

Essentials Matter—the Sequel - Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. In Titus 3:4-7 what has God done for us (v4-5) and how (v5)? What 2 terms are used for salvation in verses 5 and 7? Explain their meaning (see John 3:3-7 and Rom 3:21-30).	
5. Based on 1 Thes 4:3-7 what is God's will for us (v3, 7). Comparing this to Rom 6:19-22 what does "sanctification" mean (1 Thes 4:7 and Rom 6:19-20) and what is the result (Rom 6:22)?	
6. Using John 10:27-30 list some of the reasons we can be sure that once we are saved it is forever (v27-28, 29-30). How does Eph 1:13-14 add to this assurance?	
7. From 1 Cor 15:42-53 what condition can we expect one day (v42-44) and who will we look like (v47-49)? When will this happen (v51-53—see also 1 John 3:2)?	
8. Based on Eph 5:25-32 what relationship does Christ have with the church (v25, 31-32) and how does He express this (v25, 26-27, 29)?	
9. According to Eph 1:22-23 and 1 Cor 12:27 what other relationship does Christ have to the church? How should this affect the way we "do church" - both towards God and each other?	
10. What are some of the purposes of the church revealed in Eph 2:19-22 and Heb 10:23-25? What is the church's ultimate purpose (Eph 3:21 and Matt 28:19-20)?	
11. Using Acts 1:9-11 how will Jesus return (v9, 11)? How does 1 Thes 4:13-17 add to our knowledge of what will occur (v14, 16, 17)?	
12. From John 5:25-29 what 2 things will Jesus do at the end of the age (v25, 27) and what will result (v28-29)? Comparing 1 Cor 3:12-15 and 2 Cor 5:10 what other judgment will occur?	

Scripture to Remember

"He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit."

Titus 3:5 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

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Life Group Questions—Preaching 101 (Acts 2:14-37)

(Using questions from Sunday's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Think of the best speech or sermon you ever heard and share about it with your group. What made it so great?
2. Read Acts 2:14-21. Why did Peter's introduction center on prophecy? What did Joel prophesy about the last days and how did this Pentecost event fulfill that? How does fulfilled prophecy about Jesus affect you?
3. Talk about the significance of Joel's prophecy regarding who can speak for God now (v17-19) and who the target audience now is (v21). How can we apply that?
4. Define what a miracle is and identify some of Jesus' miracles. Why do these matter? How do people react to miracles, and how should we as believers relate to them today?
5. Discuss who actually put Jesus to death and why this matters? Why should we not have sympathy for Jesus' death? How should we respond instead?
6. Why was Peter's third point about the resurrection critical for helping people believe in Jesus as God? How should the resurrection affect our lives today?
7. Share about anything else meaningful from the message if you have time.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Studies in New Testament Christianity

June 6, 2010

Growing in Spirit & Truth

Volume 8, Issue 40



Essentials Matter, the Sequel



Jesus' one solitary life changed the course of mankind for eternity.

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God's pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God's family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

Many good movies today have a sequel because the public clamors for more and the movie studios wish to capitalize on the financial potential. Similarly, last week's study of the Essentials covered only some of the essential beliefs here at Celebration, leaving more to be desired. An understanding of all of these essentials is also very profitable for believers. This week's sequel addresses what the Bible teaches about man, salvation, the church and last things. Accurately understanding these doctrines impacts the way we "do life", making it work. The biblical teaching on man, for example, says that man is made in the image of God. He is different from animals and the rest of creation since he is the offspring of God. He has the moral nature of God and is wired for rela-

tionship. Sadly, man sinned against God and his nature was corrupted, causing his only desire to be for sin rather than obeying God. Thus, man is doomed to spiritual failure and the subsequent wrath of God. This is where the teaching of salvation is so vital. God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay for man's sin through His death and those who believe in Him are made right, or justified, in God's sight. This occurs when they are regenerated, or born again, by the Spirit. With a new nature the child of God can pursue sanctification, or holiness, and expect to persevere in his faith since he is right in God's eyes. One day he will be glorified when Christ returns and man's sin nature is removed. Until that time the church, formed by Jesus and given life by the Spirit, exists to encour-

age believers to follow Christ and expand His kingdom in this world as they evangelize, baptize, and make disciples. A true church will be known by its mutual love and commitment to biblical truth in both its teaching and practices. Ultimately, though, Jesus will physically and visibly return at the end of the age to redeem His people and judge those who have chosen not to receive Him. Believers will also have a judgment of rewards, but unbelievers will be condemned eternally. These essentials complete the picture of what we must believe to truly glorify God.

Study Questions for Essentials Matter—the Sequel

(For answers go to [http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study questions](http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study%20questions))

1. Read Gen 1:26-27. What was unique about God's creation of man (v26)? In what ways do you think man is like God (v26, 27—see also Acts 17:28-29) and how do you think he is different?	
2. Using Gen 3:1-19 describe the "fall of man" - how it occurred (v1-6) and how it affected man's relationship with himself (v7), God (v8-11), and his wife (v12, 16). What were some other results (v14-15, 17-19)?	
3. According to Rom 3:10-18, Eph 2:1-3, and Titus 3:3 what is natural man's condition after "the fall"? What does his "will" tell him to do in this state (Rom 7:18-19)?	

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