## Fellowship of Christian University Students

# FOUNDATIONS

Matthew 7:24-27

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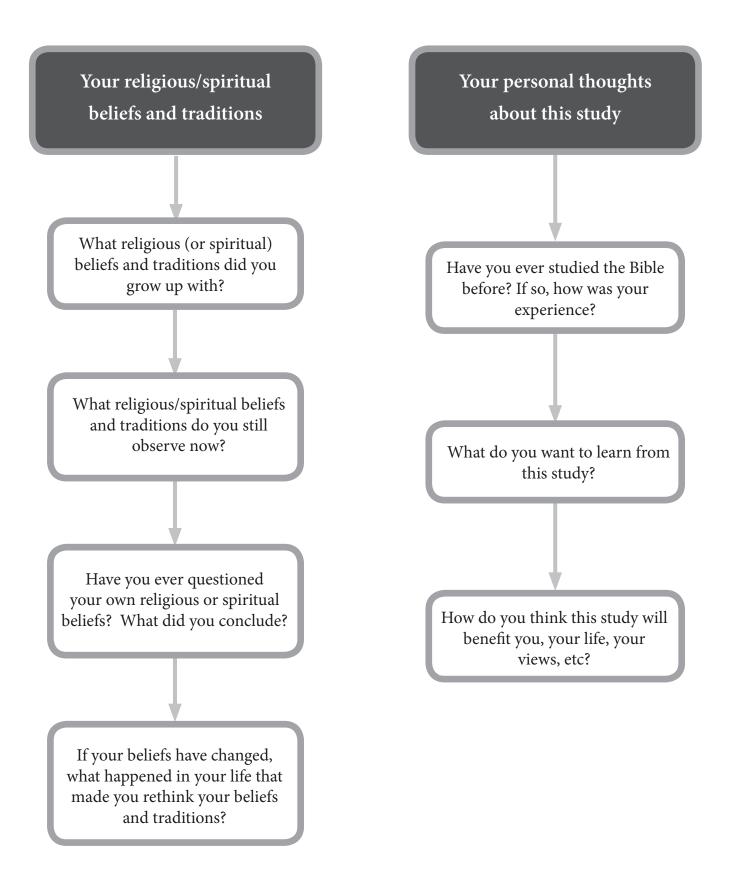
This study is about the God of the Bible. We wrote this study so that people who do not have a Christian background may learn about God and ultimately have faith in Him. The authors believe that God exists, that he is good, and that he is knowable. God truly cares about you and wants you to know about him.

You do not have to be from a specific background, ethnicity, or culture to be a Christian. God invites everyone to follow him. We believe that God's message for us is so important, valuable, and essential to all people, that every person should hear it. The study aims to present God's message and to help you understand it.

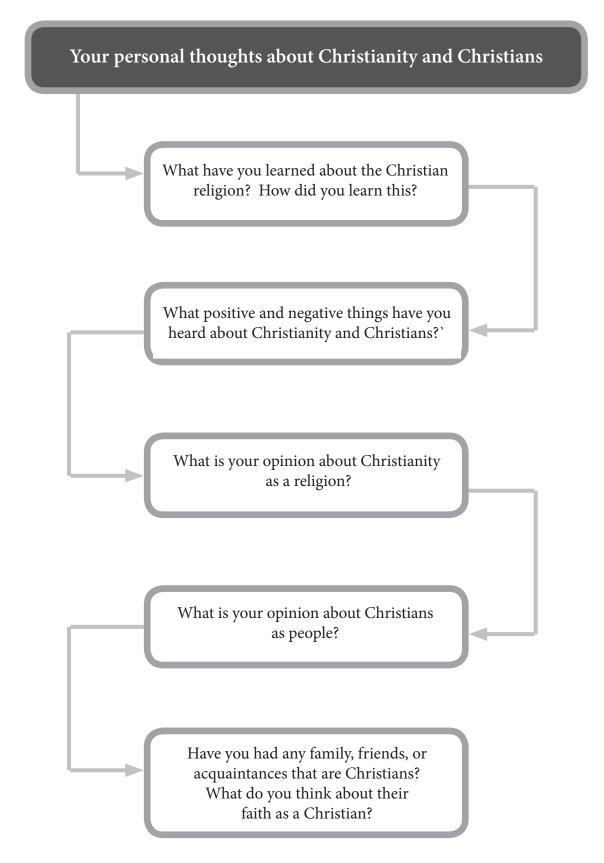
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## **Getting To Know You**



## **Getting To Know You (cont.)**



## **Christianity: A Brief Overview**

#### What is Christianity?

Christianity is based on the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The people who follow Jesus are called Christians.

Christians believe that there is one God and that God is perfect and good. This God created everything that exists. Humans were created by God and for God. God intensely loves all people and desires that they have a relationship with him.

Christians believe that all people sin (fail to live rightly). This sin condemns all people. Only God can save people from sin and death. God, who loves all people, chose to send his son Jesus to save us through his death and resurrection. Jesus calls us to follow him and imitate him.

#### Why do people choose to become Christians?

- God accepts us as we are. We don't have to prove ourselves to God; we are priceless to him.
- God is like a loving father that desires what is best for us.
- God listens to us and answers our prayers. He has the power to change our lives for the better.
- God provides the only way to eternal life. This eternal life is better than anything we can imagine.
- God loves us more than anyone else and desires to be in a relationship with us.
- God gives our lives purpose. He gives us answers to many of life's most difficult questions.
- He helps us endure our present struggles and gives us hope for the future
- The Christian faith is reasonable. It has endured thousands of years of criticism.

#### What are Christian values?

- Loving and serving people as Jesus would
- Forgiving and being merciful to those who wrong us
- Being selfless and generous
- Practicing honesty and integrity
- Obeying God's commands. Jesus said "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your mind." This is the first and most important commandment. And the second is like it. 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself." Everything that is written in the Law and the Prophets is based on these two commandments."

#### What are the sources of Christian beliefs?

- Bible This is the Christian holy book describing God's interactions with humanity.
- Church Tradition There are thousands of years of Christian teaching and tradition.
- Reason God gave us the ability to reason and we can use it to learn about God and life.
- Personal Experience God personally teaches and reveals himself to his followers.

#### Are Biblical events historical?

Christianity emerged from Judaism in the 1st century A.D. Christianity and Judaism share the same history prior to Jesus.

The Bible begins with the story of creation itself, but most of the events recorded in the Bible occur from roughly 2,000 B.C. – 95 A.D.

Although it is not possible to verify every biblical event using archaeological means, there is significant evidence supporting events written in the Bible. We even have evidence stretching back to 2,000 B.C. supporting events before the time of Jesus.

There is a tremendous amount of evidence supporting biblical events during the time of Jesus. It's worth mentioning that nearly all historians – including secular historians – agree that Jesus Christ existed, he was baptized, and he was crucified. Many people witnessed the events of Jesus life and believed in Jesus. Several of these witnesses chose to die rather than deny Jesus.

#### How has Christianity affected the world?

**Human Rights** – The Christian idea that all humans have inherent value has been central in the advancement of rights of enslaved people, women, the elderly, the handicapped, etc.

**Compassion** – Throughout history Christians have selflessly served the poor, the elderly, the orphans, and the sick. The largest aid organizations in the world are all Christian in origin.

**Education** – Christians were among the first to promote education for everyone, particularly literacy. Most of the oldest and most prestigious colleges were Christian institutions.

Science – Nearly all founders of modern science were Christians who studied the world God created to better understand God and his creation. Science and Christianity are compatible.

**History** – Christians have been responsible for a tremendous amount of good in the world; there is much more that we could share about this topic. There were some bad moments in history too, but it can be argued these moments are a minority in history and the people leading such events were not following the teachings of Jesus.

## **Christian Holy Book - The Bible**

#### What is the Bible?

The Bible consists of 66 books written over 1,800 years by more than 40 authors. Amazingly, every book speaks of the same God and His interactions with humanity from the creation of the world until the establishment of the Church.

#### Why should I care?

God uses the Bible to reveal Himself and his plan for humanity. The Bible tells us the truth about who we are and what is most important in life.

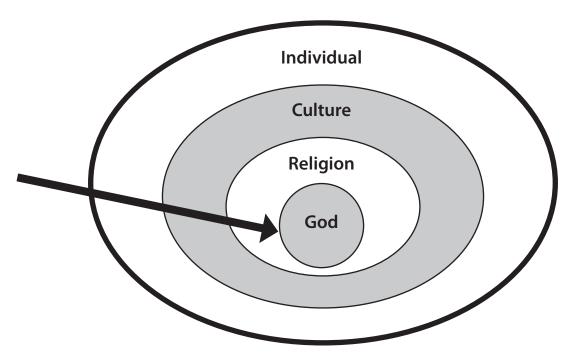
#### Is the Bible reliable?

Modern scholarship teaches us that the Bible is one of the most reliable ancient texts in world history. We can trust that the message in the Bible we read is the same essential message written by the original authors.

#### How do I read the Bible?

The Bible is not simply a collection of teachings. Instead, it contains various types of literature, such as history, poetry, prophecy, sermons, personal letters, and other genres. When reading the Bible, it is helpful to recognize the kind of literature you are reading.

The best way to read the Bible is to peel back the layers of information to find the truths of God.



## The



## Who is God? (Part 1)

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." -A.W. Tozer

#### What is God?

John 4:24 - "God is spirit. His worshipers must worship Him in spirit and in truth."

#### Where is God?

Isaiah 57:15 - "I live in a high and holy place. But I also live with anyone who turns away from his sins. I live with anyone who is not proud. I give new life to him. I give it to anyone who turns away from his sins."

#### What can God do?

Psalms 147:5 "Great is our Lord. His power is mighty. There is no limit to his understanding."

#### Is God able to create something from nothing?

Nehemiah 9:6 – "You are the one and only Lord. You made the heavens... You created all of the stars in the sky. You created the earth and everything that is on it. And you made the oceans and everything that is in them. You give life to everything..."

#### Does God control the future?

Isaiah 46:10 - God said "Before something even happens, I announce how it will end. In fact, from times long ago I announced what was still to come. I say, 'My plan will succeed. I will do anything I want to do."

#### Can God understand me?

Psalm 139:1-4 - "Lord, you have seen what is in my heart. You know all about me... You know exactly how I live. Lord, even before I speak a word, you know all about it."

#### Can we understand everything about God?

Isaiah 55:9 - "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

**FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH** 

Summarize what you learned:
What idea from this lesson is most meaningful to you?
Reflection Questions:
What are the attributes of God? Discuss them.
Why is it important that God can understand us?
Why can't we understand everything about God?
God is not a power or principle or law, but he is a living, creating, communicating person - a mind who thinks, a heart who feels, a will who acts, whose best name is Father. – Robert Hamill

## Who Is God? (Part 2)

"In God you come up against something which is in every respect immeasurably superior to yourself. Unless you know God as that-and, therefore, know yourself as nothing in comparison-you do not know God at all." -C.S. Lewis

#### Is God good?

Psalms 86:5 "Lord, you are forgiving and good. You are full of love for all who call out to you."

#### How does God treat us?

Exodus 34:6 - God said, "...I am a God who is tender and kind. I am gracious. I am slow to get angry. I am faithful and full of love."

#### How does God deal with injustice?

Psalm 146:7-9 "He stands up for those who are treated badly. He gives food to hungry people. The Lord sets prisoners free. The Lord gives sight to those who are blind. The Lord lifts up those who feel helpless. The Lord loves those who do what is right. The Lord watches over the outsiders who live in our land. He takes good care of children whose fathers have died. He also takes good care of widows. But he causes evil people to fail in everything they do."

#### Does God fulfill his promises?

Deuteronomy 7:9 "So I want you to realize that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God. He keeps his covenant for all time to come. He keeps it with those who love him and obey his commands. He shows them his love."

#### Are there other Gods?

Deuteronomy 4:35 – "The Lord showed you those things so that you might know he is God. There is no other God except him."

#### Is God for all people from all nations?

Acts 10:34-35 - "Then Peter began to speak. 'I now realize how true it is that God treats everyone the same,' he said. 'He accepts people from every nation...'"

Summarize what you learned:
What idea from this lesson is most meaningful to you?
Reflection Questions:
What do you think of the Christian God?
If you took the love of all the best mothers and fathers who ever lived all the goodness, kindness, patience, fidelity, wisdom, tenderness, strength and love and united all those virtues in one person, that person would only be a faint shadow of the love and mercy in the heart of God for you and me.  -Brennan Manning

## Who Am I?

"Because God has made us for Himself, our hearts are restless until they rest in Him." -Augustine of Hippo

#### Did God make humans special?

Genesis 1:27 – "So God created man in his own likeness. He created him in the likeness of God. He created them as male and female."

#### Did God make us good?

Genesis 1:31 – "God saw everything he had made [including man and woman]. And it was very good."

#### Why did God create us?

Colossians 1:16 – "... Everything was created by Him and for Him."

#### What did God create humans to do?

Ephesians 2:10 – "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

#### What am I worth to God?

Psalm 139:17-18 "God, your thoughts about me are priceless. No one can possibly add them all up. If I could count them, they would be more than the grains of sand."

#### What does God plan for us?

Jeremiah 29:11-13 "I know the plans I have for you," announces the Lord. "I want you to enjoy success. I do not plan to harm you. I will give you hope for the years to come. Then you will call out to me. You will come and pray to me. And I will listen to you. When you look for me with all your heart, you will find me."

Summarize what you learned:
What idea from this lesson is most meaningful to you?
Reflection Questions:
What does it mean that God created us in his likeness? How are humans unique from other animals?
How do you feel about God having a purpose and a plan for your life?
You were made by God and for God, and until you understand that, life will never make senseRick Warren

## What Is Sin?

Evil is often the perversion of something good that God has created. -C.S. Lewis

#### What does "sin" mean?

The word "sin" comes from a Greek word that means "to miss the mark." Think of a person shooting a gun at a target. If that person misses the target, then that person "missed the mark." In the same way, we sin (miss the mark) when we fail to meet God's holy standard of righteousness (the target).

#### What is God's standard of righteousness?

Matthew 5:48 "So be perfect, just as your Father in heaven [God] is perfect."

#### Where does sin come from?

Mark 7:21-23 "Evil thoughts come from the inside, from people's hearts. So do sexual sins, stealing and murder. Adultery, greed, hate and cheating come from people's hearts too. So do desires that are not pure, and wanting what belongs to others. And so do telling lies about others and being proud and being foolish. All those evil things come from inside a person. They make him 'unclean.'

#### What if we fail to do the right thing?

James 4:16 "When you know the good things you should do and don't do them, you sin."

#### Does everyone sin?

Romans 3:23 "For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard."

#### Does God hold us responsible for our sin?

Hebrews 4:13 - "Nothing God created is hidden from him. His eyes see everything. He will hold us accountable for everything we do."

#### What are the consequences of our sin?

Romans 6:23 "When you sin, the pay you get is death. But God gives you the gift of eternal life. That's because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done."

#### How does sin affect my relationship with God?

Isaiah 59:2 "But your sins have separated you from your God. They have caused him to turn his face away from you. So he won't listen to you."

#### How does sin lead to spiritual death?

James 1:13-15 "When you are tempted, you shouldn't say, "God is tempting me." God can't be tempted by evil. And he doesn't tempt anyone. But your own evil longings tempt you. They lead you on and drag you away. When they are allowed to grow, they give birth to sin. When sin has grown up, it gives birth to death."

#### Summarize what you learned:

#### What idea from this lesson is most meaningful to you?

#### **Reflection Questions:**

What sins do you see in your life? What sin do you see in the lives of others?

How does your sin affect your life? How does your sin affect others?

How does your sin affect the way you view yourself? How does sin affect the way God views you?

Every sin, no matter how seemingly insignificant, is an act of rebellion against the sovereign God who reigns and rules over us and as such is an act of treason against the cosmic King. - R.C. Sproul

### What Is God's Plan?

God is a covenant-making, covenant-remembering, covenant-keeping God! -Sinclair Ferguson

#### What does God promise that he will do to help us?

God promised to save people from sin and bring them into a personal relationship with God (See Jeremiah 31:31-35).

#### Did God promise that he would send someone to fulfill his promise?

God promised that his chosen servant would save the entire world and be a light to all nations (See Isaiah 49:5-7; Hebrews 12:24)

#### How does the Bible say the "chosen servant" (Jesus) was supposed to come?

Isaiah 7:14 "The Lord himself will give you a miraculous sign. The virgin is going to have a baby. She will give birth to a son. And he will be called Immanuel (meaning God with us)."

#### How did Mary (mother of Jesus) become pregnant with Jesus?

Luke 1:30-35 – "An angel (one of God's messengers) came to Mary and said, "Mary, God is very pleased with you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the son of the Most High God..."

Mary replied, "How can this happen? I am a virgin."

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come to you. The power of the Most High God will cover you. So the holy one that is born will be called the Son of God."

#### Is Jesus the son of God?

Matthew 3:16-17 "As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened. Jesus saw the Spirit of God coming down on him like a dove. A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, and I love him. I am very pleased with him."

#### Why did God send Jesus?

John 3:17 - Jesus said, "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

Summarize what you learned:
What idea from this lesson is most meaningful to you?
Reflection Questions:
Prophets in the Bible predicted the coming of Jesus hundreds of years before his birth. Why is this important?
Why did God send Jesus to be born from a virgin? Who is Jesus' father?
Do you think that Jesus actually existed? Why or why not?
As the centuries pass, the evidence is accumulating that, measured by His effect on history, Jesus is the most influential life ever lived on this planet. – Historian Kenneth Scott LaTourette

## Who Is Jesus?

Although Christ was God, he took flesh; and having been made man, he remained what he was: God. - Origen

#### Is Jesus God?

Colossians 1:15-17 "Christ is the exact likeness of God, who can't be seen. He is first, and he is over all of creation. All things were created by him. He created everything in heaven and on earth. He created everything that can be seen and everything that can't be seen. He created kings, powers, rulers and authorities. Everything was created by him and for him. Before anything was created, he was already there. He holds everything together."

#### How is Jesus both man and God?

Colossians 2:9 - "God's whole nature is living in Christ in human form."

#### Is Jesus – the son of God – separate from God the Father?

John 10:30 "Jesus said 'I and the Father are one."

#### Did Jesus live a perfect life and never sin?

Hebrews 4:15 "We have a high priest [Jesus] who has been tempted in every way, just as we are. But he did not sin."

#### What did Jesus come to do?

John 6:38 - Jesus said, "I have not come down from heaven to do what I want to do. I have come to do what the One who sent me wants me to do."

Matthew 4:43 - Jesus said, "I must preach the good news of the Kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent."

John 19:37 - Jesus said, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth."

Matthew 20:28 - Jesus said, "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

#### Why did God choose to become a man?

Hebrews  $2:14-18 - \dots$  So [Jesus] had to be made like his brothers (us humans) in every way. Then he could serve God as a kind and faithful high priest. And then he could pay for the sins of the people by dying for them. He himself suffered when he was tempted. Now he is able to help others who are being tempted."

Summarize what you learned:
What idea from this lesson is most meaningful to you?
Reflection Questions:
Why did God become a man?
Why is it good for us that God became a man?
The Bible claims Jesus led a perfect life. What does that mean?
Buddha never claimed to be God. Moses never claimed to be Jehovah. Mohammed never claimed to be Allah. Yet Jesus Christ claimed to be the true and living God. Buddha simply said, "I am a teacher in search of truth." Jesus said, "I am the truth." Confucius said, "I never claimed to be holy." Jesus said, "Who convicts me of sin?" Mohammed said, "Unless God throws his cloak of mercy over me, I have no hope." Jesus said, "Unless you believe in me, you will die in your sins." - Unknown

## **What Did Jesus Teach?**

Socrates taught for 40 years, Plato for 50, Aristotle for 40, and Jesus for only 3. Yet the influence of Christ's 3-year ministry infinitely transcends the impact left by the combined 130 years of teaching from these men who were among the greatest philosophers of all antiquity. - Unknown

#### How did Jesus teach?

Jesus taught some large crowds of people, but much of his teaching was done in small groups and face-to-face. He preached sermons, taught through symbolic stories (called parables), and led by example.

#### What was special about Jesus' teachings?

Mathew 7:28-29 - "...the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law."

John 7:16 – Jesus said, "My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me. If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own."

#### What did Jesus say were the two most important commands?

Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus said, "Love the Love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself."

#### Which people are blessed in God's kingdom?

Read Matthew 5:1-12 (The Beatitudes)

#### What did Jesus teach about revenge?

Matthew: 5:38-39 "You have heard that it was said, "Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth." But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also."

#### What does Jesus teach about God's forgiveness?

Read Luke 15:11-31 (Prodigal Son)

#### What did Jesus teach about greatness in God's kingdom?

Mark 10:42-45 "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be the slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

What did Jesus teach about prayer? Read Luke 11:1-13 (Jesus' teaching on prayer).
Summarize what you learned:
What idea from this lesson is most meaningful to you?
Reflection Questions:
What do you think about these teachings?
How do these teachings differ from what the world teaches?
Which teaching is most meaningful to you? Why?
Fundamentally, our Lord's message was Himself. He did not come merely to preach a Gospel; He himself is that Gospel. He did not come merely to give bread; He said, "I am the bread." He did not come merely to show the door; He said, "I am the door." He did not come merely to name a shepherd; He said, "I am the shepherd." He did not come merely to point the way; He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." J. Sidlow Baxter

## **Was Jesus More Than A Good Teacher?**

I know men and I tell you that Jesus Christ is no mere man. Between Him and every other person in the world there is no possible term of comparison. Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and I have founded empires. But on what did we rest the creation of our genius? Upon force. Jesus Christ founded his empire upon love; and at this hour millions of men would die for him. – Napoleon Bonaparte

#### Did Jesus have power over evil spirits?

Read Mark 1:23-27 (Jesus casts out a demon)

#### Did Jesus heal people?

Mark 1:40-42 "A man with leprosy (skin disease) came to Jesus and begged him on his knees, 'If you are willing, you can make me clean.' Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. 'I am willing' Jesus said. 'Be clean!' Immediately the leprosy was cured."

#### Does Jesus have authority to forgive sins?

Read Mark 2:3-12 (Jesus heals a paralyzed man)

#### Does Jesus have power over nature?

Read Mark 4:35-41 (Jesus calms the storm)

#### Does Jesus have power to bring a dead person back to life?

Read John 11:17-44 (Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead)

#### Did Jesus know the future, including his own death?

Mark 10:32-34 "Jesus said, 'We are going up to Jerusalem and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, who will mock him, spit on him, flog him, and kill him. Three days later he will rise."

#### What did Jesus say about his authority?

Matthew 28:18 – Jesus said, "I have been given complete authority in heaven and on earth."

#### Did Jesus personally claim to be God?

Luke 22:70 - "They all asked, 'Are you then the Son of God?' Jesus replied, 'You are right in saying that I am."

Summarize what you learned:
What idea from this lesson is most meaningful to you?
Reflection Questions:
Which miracle is most amazing to you?
How do these miracles demonstrate powers of God?
Do you think Jesus was more than a good teacher?
I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to. —C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

## **Jesus Death And Resurrection**

Sometimes God allows what he hates to accomplish what he loves. -Joni Eareckson Tada

#### How was Jesus arrested?

Read Luke 22:47-53

#### Why did the priests and teachers of the law condemn Jesus?

Read Luke 22:63-71

#### How did the local governors judge Jesus?

Read Luke 23:1-7

#### How was Jesus crucified?

Read Luke 23:32-43

#### How did Jesus die?

Read Luke 23:44-49

#### How was Jesus buried?

Read Luke 23:50-56

#### How did Jesus come back to life?

Read Luke 24:1-12

#### How did people react to Jesus rising to life?

Read Luke 24:13-35

#### How did the apostles react to Jesus rising to life?

Read Luke 24:36-49

Read Luke 24:50-53

#### Did Jesus appear to other people after his resurrection?

Acts 1:3 "After his suffering, he [Jesus] showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God."

#### Why did Jesus choose to leave instead of stay?

The Bible does not fully explain why Jesus returned to Heaven, but it does say that Jesus left in order to prepare the way for us. Jesus also promises that he will not leave us like orphans, but that he will send the Holy Spirit – God himself – to be with each of us and lead us. Jesus makes it clear that we should be happy that he returns to the Father. Lastly, Jesus promised that he will return in the future, and that we must be ready.

#### Summarize what you learned:

#### What idea from this lesson is most meaningful to you?

#### **Reflection Questions:**

Why was Jesus arrested and crucified? Why didn't Jesus resist?

How do you feel about the death and resurrection of Jesus?

Why did Jesus choose to sacrifice his life and come back to life?

He died not for men, but for each man. If each man had been the only man made, He would have done no less. -C.S. Lewis

## Why Do We Need Jesus?

Mere knowledge is not enough to undercut the evil in the human heart. Simply knowing what is right doesn't enable us to do right. – Chuck Colson

#### Are you a sinner?

1 John: 1:8 "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."

#### Who judges my life?

Psalm 51:4 "God - You are the one I've really sinned against. I've done what is evil in your sight. So you are right when you sentence me. You are fair when you judge me."

#### Can anyone live a "good enough" life apart from God?

Romans 3:10-12 "It is written, 'No one is right with God, no one at all. No one understands. No one trusts in God. All of them have turned away. They have all become worthless. No one does anything good, no one at all."

#### How does sin affect me after I die?

Hebrews 9:27 "People have to die once. After that, God will judge them."

Daniel 12:2 "Huge numbers of people who lie dead in their graves will wake up. Some will rise up to life that will never end. Others will rise up to shame that will never end."

Psalm 5:4-6 "God, you aren't happy with anything that is evil. Those who do what is wrong can't live where you are..."

#### Does God care about sinners?

1 Timothy 2:4 "He wants everyone to be saved. He wants them to come to know the truth."

#### How does Jesus save us from spiritual death?

1 John 2:2 "He [Jesus] gave his life to pay for our sins. But he not only paid for our sins. He also paid for the sins of the whole world."

Colossians 1:20 "God was pleased to bring all things back to himself. That's because of what Christ has done. These things include everything on earth and in heaven. God made peace through Christ's blood, by his death on the cross.

Romans 6:7-10 "...those who have died have been set free from sin. We died with Christ. So we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ was raised from the dead and will never die again. Death doesn't control him anymore. When he died, he died once and for all time. He did this to break **the power of sin. Now that he lives, he lives in the power of God**"

#### How should we respond to Jesus? What does God give those who choose Jesus?

Romans 10:9 "...if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Acts 2:38-41 "All of you must turn away from your sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then your sins will be forgiven. You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children. It is also for all who are far away. It is for all whom the Lord our God will choose."

#### Do we have to earn God's forgiveness?

Ephesians 2:8-9 "God's grace has saved you because of your faith in Christ. Your salvation doesn't come from anything you do. It is God's gift. It is not based on anything you have done. No one can brag about earning it."

#### Is there any other way we may be saved?

John 10:28-29 "Jesus said 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

#### Can we really trust God to save us?

John 10:28-29 "Jesus said 'I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand."

#### Summarize what you learned:

#### What idea from this lesson is most meaningful to you?

#### **Reflection Questions:**

Why is spiritual death bad? Why is eternal life good?

How does our faith in Jesus save us?

How do you feel about Jesus – God himself – choosing to die to save you?

Do you think you need Jesus? Why or why not?

I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even if he dies. And those who live and believe in me will never die. Do you believe this? – Jesus Christ (John 11:25)

## **What Is Your Conclusion?**

Summarize what it means to be a Christian

How do you think becoming a Christian would affect your life?

Do you have any questions, doubts, or concerns?	
Would you like to become a Christian? Why or why not?	
	FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH