

# ***Repentance from Dead works***



## **109) What is a foundation?**

- A. The American Heritage Dictionary states a foundation is "the basis upon which something stands or is supported."
- B. A building's foundation is that prepared base or support that the building rests on.

## **110) What is a spiritual foundation?**

- A. Those teachings and experiences that establish you in God and supply the structure for the rest of your personal spiritual growth and ministry.

## **111) Why must I be concerned with my spiritual foundation?**

- A. How you build your spiritual foundation will not only determine where you will spend eternity, but **how** you will live the rest of your life.
  - 1. If a foundation is poorly built, the rest of the building is in danger of collapse.
- B. A strong, spiritual foundation demands a total commitment to Jesus Christ, the Rock of our salvation.

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. [25] The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. [26] But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. [27] The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

MATT 7:24-27 NIV

"They all ate the same spiritual food [4] and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ."

1COR 10:3-4 NIV

## Building Firm Foundations

### 112) What does it mean to be totally committed to Christ?

- A. Being a follower of Christ is not just a weekend activity. It is a lifestyle. God requires that we withhold nothing from Him, just as He did not withhold His Son from us.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

JOHN 3:16 NIV

"He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all -how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?"

ROM 8:32 NIV

- B. If our commitment is half-hearted or lukewarm, God is not interested.
1. If you offer your employer a half-hearted commitment, you will soon find yourself unemployed. How much greater should our commitment be to God!

"In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple."

LUKE 14:33 NIV

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; [20] you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body."

1COR 6:19-20 NIV

"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."

MATT 6:24 NIV

"A double minded man is unstable in all his ways."

JAMES 1:8 KJV

"So, because you are lukewarm -neither hot nor cold - I am about to spit you out of my mouth."

REV 3:16 NIV

### 113) How is a Spiritual Foundation placed in our life?

- A. It must be experienced. It is important to have a doctrinal understanding of our spiritual foundation, but a "foundation stone" will never be laid until we let God "place" them in our heart.

"Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him."

PSA 34:8 NIV

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. [8] For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."

MATT 7:7-8 NIV

**114) What are the spiritual foundation stones?**

- A. Repentance from dead works.
- B. Faith toward God.
- C. Doctrine of baptisms.
  - 1. Water baptism
  - 2. Baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire
- D. Laying on of hands.
- E. Resurrection of the dead.
- F. Eternal Judgement.

"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, [2] Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment."

HEB 6:1-2 KJV

**115) What is the first spiritual foundation stone?**

- A. Repentance from dead works.

**116) What are dead works?**

- A. Dead works can be any good deed, church tradition, custom, rite, or ceremony that we participate in to try to earn God's approval or acceptance.
  - 1. These "works" may be religious and appear to have spiritual value, but there is no spiritual life in them.

"having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them."  
2TIM 3:5 NIV

"They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men." [8] You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men." [9] And he said to them: "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions!"

MARK 7:7-9 NIV

"See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ."  
COL 2:8 NIV

- 2. Even things like church attendance, prayer, and Bible reading can become a dead work.
- B. Dead works are anything we do to substitute for what God requires of us.
  - 1. Example: If God tells you to go to a friend's house to help them and you tell God you will pray for them instead, your prayer will be a dead work.
- C. Any attempt to win our own salvation is a dead work.

"(God) who has saved us and called us to a holy life - not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus

## Building Firm Foundations

before the beginning of time, [10] but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel."

2TIM 1:9-10 NIV

### 117) What is repentance?

- A. "Repent" literally means "to perceive afterwards, change of mind, repentance, always in the NT involving a change for the better." (Vines, 952)
- B. Repentance is a change of mind toward sin, a 180 degree turn in our thinking and behavior. Repentance "involves both a turning from sin and a turning to God". (Vines, 953)

### 118) What is the difference between sorrow, confession, and repentance?

- A. Sorrow:
  - 1. Sorrow is an emotion related to sadness, grief, or regret.
  - 2. It is also the emotion we experience when we fail God in sin.
  - 3. Feeling sorry for our sin does nothing to eliminate the problem sin has caused in our life.
  - 4. But ...
    - a. Sorrow can be deceptive. You can feel sorry you were caught, sorry you were inconvenienced, sorry you can't continue on as before without being sorry for committing the sin that caused all the trouble.
- B. Confession:
  - 1. "Confess" means to admit; to acknowledge.
  - 2. The definition of the Greek word for confess means "to SPEAK the same thing; to agree with (God)." (Vines, 216)
  - 3. "Confession" means to agree with God, to admit that what he says about our sin is true.
  - 4. But ...
    - a. You can confess your sin, that is, you can agree with God that what you did was sin and that it was wrong, yet have no intention of stopping.
- C. Repentance:
  - 1. Repenting of our sin combines sorrow and confession with a radical change of heart.
    - a. Repentance involves sorrow for our sin, agreeing with God that our behavior was wrong and a turning away from sin with a desire never to repeat the sin again.
  - 2. There is **NO** repentance without a change of heart.

### 119) Why must we repent from dead works?

- A. Dead works cannot save us from our sins. They give us a false sense of security. They make us feel like we are serving God, when in reality, God despises dead works.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - [9] not by works, so that no one can boast."

EPH 2:8-9 NIV

## Repentance from Dead Works

"By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. [11] For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ."

1COR 3:10-11 NIV

"I hate, I despise your religious feasts; I cannot stand your assemblies. [22] Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. [23] Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps."

AMOS 5:21-23 NIV

- B. Dead works need to be removed before we can lay a proper foundation.
1. Just as stones have to be removed from a garden to make room for the plants to grow, dead works need to be removed from our life so that faith can grow in our heart.

"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."

MATT 6:24 NIV

"Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

1JOHN 2:15 NIV

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Group Leaders: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Homework for Chapter 9

**Please answer the following questions from the textbook in full sentences and return to your Group Leaders next week.**

- 1) Define a spiritual foundation.

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- 2) List the six foundations stones

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- 3) Define dead works?

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- 4) Explain why we must repent from dead works.

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- 5) Explain the difference between sorrow, confession, & repentance.

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