

WELCOME TO BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

New/prospective member orientation

Session ONE:

Welcome to Bethel Baptist Church. The purpose of this new/prospective member orientation is to simply help you understand what it means to be part of Bethel Baptist Church. Hopefully this short two-session orientation will answer most of the basic questions you have about church membership in general, and Bethel Baptist Church specifically.

I. WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

Col. 1.18: He is also the head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning the first born from the dead, so that he Himself will come to have first place in everything.

The word "church" simply means _____

The church is _____

The moment God saves someone they become part of His family, the church.

The " _____ " church is all believers in Jesus;

The " _____ " church is a local gathering of believers that have joined together for the sake of the Lord's work where they are.

The church is not a building, the church is the people of the Lord.

a. Why is 'local' church membership so important?

The church has been established by Jesus to _____ until He returns.

The church is the _____ in the community.

All Christians have been called to be part of a local body of believers.

To not be part of a church is to not understand what the church is all about.

b. How does one become a member of Bethel Baptist Church?

1. By _____ in Jesus Christ and follow-on baptism.

2. By transferring your current church _____ to Bethel.

3. By _____.

A statement of faith simply means you have trusted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you have been baptized, but you are not currently a member of any local church.

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II. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE “SAVED”?

John 20.31: but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

1 Tim. 2.3-4: *This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

To be “saved” means you have _____
in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.

The term “saved” means to be saved, or _____, from having to pay the _____
_____ of your sin, which is eternal separation from God forever in a real place called hell.

Jesus Christ came, God in the flesh, and died on a cross as a payment for man’s sin penalty. Jesus was buried and was raised from the dead on the third day proving He has the victory over sin, death, and the grave. Faith and trust in Jesus means that you too share in that victory.

Faith and trust in Jesus is the only way to be forgiven and saved because Jesus is the only one to die on the cross for our sins and then be raised on the third day (John 14.6).

Salvation is a _____ of God. (John 3.16; Rom. 10.13)

Salvation is a _____ of God (Rom. 6.23);

Salvation cannot be _____ (1 Pet. 3.3-5)

How can I be “saved”?

Rom. 10.9, 13: *that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

Salvation is _____ to everyone who will trust and believe in Jesus.

The Bible tells us:

1. You must _____ you are a sinner;
2. You must _____ your sins to Jesus;
3. You must ask Him to _____

Asking Jesus to save you means you are committing your life to follow Him for the rest of your life as a disciple, or learner, of Jesus. The Bible commands us to make disciples as we are growing as disciples ourselves (Matt. 28.19).

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III. WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Matt. 28.19: Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

To be baptized means to be _____

Baptism is the first act of _____ after someone trusts Christ.

Baptism cannot _____ anyone.

Baptism is a _____ of the death and burial of Jesus (going under the water) and the resurrection of Jesus (coming up out of the water).

Baptism is also a picture of the death and burial of a person's _____, and coming up out of the water is a picture of their _____

Why is baptism so important?

Baptism _____ you with Jesus who was baptized Himself to identify with His believers;

Baptism identifies you with all other _____

Baptism is the first act of _____ after salvation.

Baptism is _____ in the Bible (Matt. 28.19; Acts 3.38; 8.36-38; 10.47-48)

Baptism is _____ for church membership.

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IV. WHAT IS THE LORD'S SUPPER?

The Lord's Supper, also called Communion, was instituted by Jesus on the night He shared the Passover meal with His disciples (Luke 22.14-20)

The bread represents the _____ of Christ

The juice represents the _____ of Jesus on the cross for the payment of our sins

We celebrate the Lord's Supper as a way to remind us of the _____ that was paid for our sins

Bethel celebrates the Lord's Supper once a quarter.

Who can participate in the Lord's Supper? Only those who have been saved and baptized. You do not have to be a member of Bethel Baptist Church to participate in the Lord's Supper, but you do have to be saved and baptized.

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