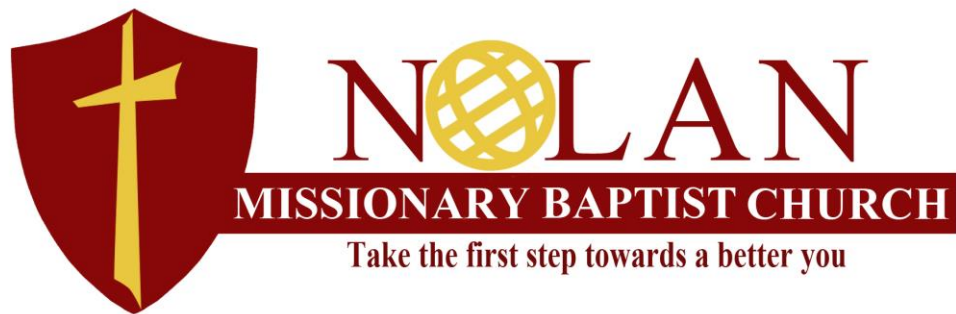


# **New Member's Orientation and Study Class**

Rev. Monty Harris, Pastor



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# **New Member's Orientation And Study Class**

Compiled by:  
Rev. Monty Harris, Pastor

## **Table of Contents**

Welcome from Pastor Harris.....Page 3

### **Lesson 1 The Holy Trinity**

God The Father.....Page 4-6

God The Son.....Page 7-8

God The Holy Spirit.....Page 9-10

### **Lesson 2 Salvation**

Salvation.....Page 11-15

The Church.....Page 15-16

Ordinances of the Church.....Page 17-21

### **Lesson 3 God's Word, Prayer and Tithe**

The Holy Bible.....Page 22-25

Prayer.....Page 25-27

Tithe and Offering.....Page 27-29

### **Lesson 4 Ministries of Nolan**

Ministries.....Page 29

Five Principles.....Page 30-31

**Closing Statement.....Page 31**

Greetings,

We are all excited that you have chosen to become a member of the Lord's family here at Nolan Missionary Baptist Church. As a child of God you have been granted the same rights, advantages, privileges and protection He provides for all that belong to Him. Nolan Missionary Baptist Church is a church where all are accepted for who we are, forgiven of what we've done and loved because of Christ. As a member of His family God has a purpose for you to fulfill. We, as the body of Christ, follow His will and work together as one (1 Corinthians 12: 12-31). As your Pastor I want you to know that I am always approachable and available if you ever need to speak with me either by telephone or in person.

This booklet and course is a brief introduction to Nolan Missionary Baptist Church. There are various ministries, which will allow you to fulfill God's purpose for your life in Christian service. After completion of this course and prayerful guidance from God we know that you will successfully begin to carry out your purpose in one of these ministries.

Remember, God Created You,  
Jesus Saved You,  
The Holy Spirit Guides You,  
And, We ALL Love You

*Welcome home!*

**Rev. Monty Harris, Pastor**

## **Lesson 1**

### **The Holy Trinity**

#### **Facts For Christians**

The God that we serve exists in three persons (Genesis 1:26, 11:7, Isaiah 48:16, Luke 1:35). (1) God The Father, (2) God The Son, and (3) God the Holy Spirit. These three as one make up the Holy Trinity. All Christians must know these basic facts regarding each of them.

#### **God The Father**

*God is the creator of all things.* (Genesis 1, Genesis 2:1-3) In six days God created the Heaven and the earth. He created all living creatures and provided all that every creature would need to survive.

*All Christians must believe that God is real.* (Hebrews 11:6) God is not the result of a vivid imagination. He is real and without faith in Him we are nothing. It is God who sustains us in all things at all times.

*God is a personal being.* (Jeremiah 29:13) God is not an inanimate object. He is not an It, but rather a personal being. When we search for Him with our whole heart we will find Him. We acknowledge His person with such titles as Father, Shepherd, Friend and Counselor to name a few.

*God is a spiritual being.* (Numbers 23:19, John 4:24) God is not a human being. He is a spirit. And if we are to have true communication with Him it must be spiritual. Humans too are spiritual beings. The flesh is only used to house our spirits for existence here on earth. Acceptance of this fact allows believers to both hear from and speak to God.

*Jehovah is the only God.* (Isaiah 44:6, 1 Corinthians 8:4-6, 1 Timothy 2:5) The God that we serve, Jehovah, is the *Only True and Living God*. There is no other God, end of story. Some serve and worship the earth, moon or

sun. Others worship objects made by man. Christians serve the God that created the earth, moon and the sun. We worship the God that created the man that made the object.

*God hates sin.* (Isaiah 59:2, Amos 5:21-23, Romans 6:23) God hates sin because of its end results on us, which is destruction and death. But because of His love for us God provided a way of deliverance from sin for us, Jesus.

*God loves humans.* (John 3:16) While God does indeed hate sin He loves humans that commit sin. He loves us so that He sent His only Son, Jesus, to suffer and die for our sins thereby granting us eternal life.

*God is omniscient.* (Psalm 139:12, Isaiah 40:13-14, Luke 12:7, John 2:24-25) Nothing is hidden from God. He has infinite knowledge, awareness and wisdom. He knows the inner most thoughts of humans. God is able to search our hearts and minds and knows the number of hairs on our heads.

*God is omnipresent.* (1 Kings 8:27, Jeremiah 23:24, Psalm 139:7-10, Hebrews 13:5) God is everywhere at all times. There are no hiding places from God. There is no place where anyone can escape the presence of God.

*God is omnipotent.* (Job 9:19, Isaiah 40:28, Hebrews 1:3, Revelation 19:6) There is none as powerful as God. He is the Almighty.

**Review of God The Father:**

1. What does God hate? (Isaiah 59:2, Amos 5:21-23) \_\_\_\_\_.
2. God is everywhere at all times. (I Kings 8:27, Jeremiah 23:24, Psalm 139:7-10) This is called?\_\_\_\_\_.
3. God exists in three persons. Who are they?\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What did God create? (Genesis 1:1-2:1 3)\_\_\_\_\_.
5. God has all power. What is this called? (Job 9:19, Isaiah 40:28, Hebrews 1:3, Revelation 19:6 )\_\_\_\_\_.
6. How did God display His love for the world? (John 3:16)\_\_\_\_\_.
7. What is God? (Numbers 23:19, John 4:24)\_\_\_\_\_.
8. All Christians must believe that God is \_\_\_\_\_(Hebrews 1:6).

## **All Christians must know these basic facts about the Son of God:**

### **God The Son**

*Jesus was there in the beginning.* (Genesis 1:26, 11:7, Isaiah 48:16, John 1:1-5) Jesus has always existed. Jesus was present with God before the beginning. He worked with God to create everything that was created.

*Jesus was foretold of in Old Testament scripture.* (Isaiah 7:10-15, Micah 5:2-5) God in His infinite wisdom knew that His people needed a savior. Sin held His people captives and He had to provide a way of escape from sin and a bridge to Himself. The foretelling of the coming messiah provided hope and encouragement for His people.

*Jesus was sent by God.* (John 3:16) God, because of His love for human beings, sent His Son to serve as the ultimate sacrifice to cleanse our sins. God sent His very Best to suffer and die in our place so all that believe in Jesus and accept Him as Lord and Savior would receive eternal life.

*Jesus was born of a woman.* (Luke 2:1-7) Jesus entered this earth, in His human form, just as every man has since Eve gave birth to Cain, He was born of a woman. Mary gave birth to Jesus in a barn and used an animal feeding trough for His bed.

*Jesus was an example for all Christians.* (Luke 2:49-52, Matthew 3:13-17, 4:1-11, Mark 6:30-43, Luke 23:34, John 19:26-27) Jesus was obedient to His parents, baptized, resisted temptation from Satan, had compassion for others, made provisions for them, loved His enemies and cared for His family. These are just a few areas where we find Jesus setting the example. A search of the scripture will reveal Jesus setting the example or teaching the proper manner to live as Christians.

*Jesus died.* (Matthew 27:45-56, Luke 23:44-49, John 19:28-30) Jesus died. He did not faint. He died. He did not lapse into a coma. He died. There is no refuting this fact. Everyone, on the day of His death, both enemies and loved ones all agreed that Jesus died.

*Jesus was buried.* (Matthew 27:57-60, Mark 15:42-47, Luke 23:50-56, John 19:38-42) After Jesus died His body was taken by Joseph of Arimathea and set in a tomb that Joseph had purchased for himself. A stone was placed across the opening of the tomb and Pilate sent soldiers to guard the tomb.

*Jesus was resurrected.* (Matthew 28: 1-10, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-2, John 20:1-10) Death nor the grave had the power to hold Jesus captive. He overcame them both for our sake.

*Jesus ascended to Heaven.* (Act 1:4-11) Jesus returned to His Father and now after having saved us intercedes on our behalf to God.

### **Review of Jesus:**

1. Jesus did not die. True or False
2. Jesus never left Heaven. True or False
3. Jesus died for the sins of the world. True or False
4. The Old Testament does not mention Jesus. True or False
5. Jesus is the Son of God. True or False
6. Jesus was baptized. True or False
7. Jesus never obeyed Joseph and Mary. True or False
8. Jesus is now in Heaven. True or False
9. Jesus did not resist temptation. True or False
10. Jesus was resurrected. True or False



**All Christians must know these basic facts about the:**

**Holy Spirit**

*The Holy Spirit was there in the beginning.* (Genesis 1:26, 11:7, Isaiah 48:16) The Holy Spirit was present with God The Father and Jesus The Son before the beginning.

*The Holy Spirit is personal, not impersonal.* (John 16:17, 15:26, 16:7-8) The Spirit is revealed as Him not It. The Holy Spirit is the direct agent between heaven and earth in this gospel age.

*The Holy Spirit regenerates.* (2 Corinthians 3:6, Romans 8:11) The Holy Spirit converts or reforms us, believers, completely.

*The Holy Spirit teaches.* (John 14:26, 16:12-14) When we study the word of God we must ask for the aide of the Holy Spirit to teach us the information that God desires we have knowledge of.

*The Holy Spirit guides.* (Romans 8:14, Galatians 5:16, 18) In order to live a successful Christian life all Christians must rely on the guidance of the Holy Spirit. He leads believers in all truths. He will never lead us in the wrong direction or in any way that is contrary to God.

*The Holy Spirit Convicts believers of sin.* (John 16:5-11) The Holy Spirit is here to show us all the truth about sin. That it is a destructive force, contrary to God and His Will and that it, if not forgiven, leads to death.

*The Holy Spirit gives inspiration.* (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:21) The Holy Spirit gives insight and inspiration to all believers.

*The Holy Spirit provides comfort.* (John 14:16, Acts 9:31) The Holy Spirit comforts believers in restless times. There are times in the life of a believer when the circumstances of life seem unbearable. God in His infinite wisdom has sent the Holy Spirit to comfort believers at such times.

*The Holy Spirit is a gift from God.* (John 14:15-26, Acts 2:1-4) God has sent the Holy Spirit to believers as a gift. He expects His children to make use of all that He provides.

*The Holy Spirit is a helper to believers.* (Romans 8:26) God knows that believers cannot survive in this hostile world without someone helping them. His Holy Spirit helps believers navigate through the sometimes harsh environment of this world.

### **Review of The Holy Spirit:**

1. The Holy Spirit provides \_\_\_\_\_ (John 14:16) for believers?
2. The Holy Spirit is a \_\_\_\_\_ (John 14:15-26) from God?
3. The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ (John 16:5-11) believers of sin.
4. The Holy Spirit is a \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 8:14) to believers.
5. When believers need help they can call on (Romans 8:26)\_\_\_\_\_.
6. The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ (II Corinthians 3:6) all believers.
7. God the Father, Son and \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 1:26, 11:7) were there in the beginning.
8. The Holy Spirit teaches believers. True or False
9. The Holy Spirit is impersonal. True or False

## Lesson 2

### Salvation

Salvation is the transformation of a person's individual nature and relationship with God as a result of repentance and faith in the atoning death of Jesus Christ on the cross. All humanity stands in need of salvation which is only possible through faith in Christ Jesus. Believers are saved by grace through faith for good works (Ephesians 2:8-10).

*Because of Adam's "Fall," (Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-11) all humans required a plan of salvation. God's word assures all that accept Christ as Lord and Savior that salvation belongs to them (1 John 5:10-13) and that they are saved (John 6:37).*

*Scriptures regarding salvation:*

Deuteronomy 30:19-20    Matthew 1:21

Matthew 11:28-30    Matthew 18:14

Mark 16: 15-16

Humans are unable to save themselves. God provided a means of salvation for the world and all credit belongs to God (Ephesians 2:8-9).

God provides the following through Salvation:

*Access to God.* (Romans 5:1-2, Ephesians 2:13) Before Jesus suffered and died in our place for our sins individuals only had access to God through the high priest. But because Christ is salvation for believers all believers have access to God through Christ Jesus. There is no need to go through another human being to have access to God.

*Adoption into God's family.* (John 1:12, Romans 8:22-24, Galatians 4:4-7) Through salvation God has adopted and accepted believers as His children. Because of salvation believers are able to see God as their Father.

*Forgiveness of sin.* (Psalm 32:1-2, Matthew 26:28, Acts 5:30-31) All human beings commit sin. An offering to God must be rendered by the sinner to receive forgiveness. Jesus Christ is The Offering to God for all believers. Salvation blots out the sinful deeds of believers and saves us from sin which, if not forgiven leads to eternal damnation.

*Peace with God.* (Ephesians 2:13-17, Isaiah 53:3, John 16: 33) Salvation removes the hostility that exists between humans and God and replaces hostility with peace. Without salvation there will always be turmoil between humans and God.

*A New Life.* (2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 6:4, Galatians 6:14) Without salvation humans remain in the adamic state, the nature of Adam. That state or nature causes humans to satisfy their flesh while neglecting their souls. Salvation begins with a spiritual rebirth that causes believers to live spiritually as opposed to carnally.

*Deliverance from the power of sin.* (Romans 6:14, 7:21-25, 8:2-4, Galatians 1:3-5) Sin does not have a hold on believers because God has granted believers salvation. Without salvation humans are slaves to sin. Once salvation is received, the believer is no longer a prisoner to sin.

## **The Conversion Experience**

In order to be saved or receive salvation, a conversion, or turn must first take place. A person must trust in God as a child has trust in his or her parents (Matthew 18:3). Humans must turn to God from sin (Acts 14:15, 1 Thessalonians 1:8-9). There are three steps in this process. While they are listed here in sequence they may also occur simultaneously.

**Conviction** is the state humans find themselves in when they acknowledge their sinful condition. It is a remorseful condition (Acts 2:36-37). Once this condition is acknowledged the person must then confess of their sins (Acts 19:18).

**Repentance** is the second step in the conversion process (Mark 1:15, Luke 5:32). Repentance is an essential element in the salvation experience. At this point a person not only acknowledges his or her sinful state, but also realizes that turning to God is the only way out of this sinful state. When a person repents it causes Heaven to rejoice (Luke 15:7). Jesus instructed His disciples to preach repentance (Luke 24:47).

**Faith** is the final step in the conversion experience. Faith is simply trust in God for, and in all things (Hebrews 11:1). A person must trust that Jesus can save him or her (John 3:16). A person must trust that God can and will supply his or her needs (Philippians 4:19). The only means of pleasing God is by trusting Him (Hebrews 11:6).

### **All Believers Must Be Born Again**

Jesus tells us that the only way an individual will see the Kingdom of God is to be born again (John 3:3). This rebirth is spiritual and must take place in order to be reborn. The following is a list of scriptures regarding rebirth and why it is needed.

*The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23 KJV)*

If a person is not born again, sin will lead to his or her death. Death is separation from God forever.

*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. (Romans 10:9 KJV)*

Rebirth involves publicly confessing Jesus Christ as Lord and belief in God and His ability to save in the heart.

*But after that the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but*

*according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. (Titus 3:4-5 KJV)*

A humans works cannot save them, Only God has that power.

*For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved. (Romans 10:13 KJV)*

God promised that he would save all that called upon Him.

If you have not allowed Jesus Christ to be your personal Savior pray earnestly and honestly the following prayer:

**Dear God. I know that I have sinned by breaking your laws and I ask forgiveness. I believe that Jesus died for my sins. I want to be born again and receive new life in Him. I will follow Jesus as my Lord and obey Him in all that I do. In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.**

### **Review of Salvation:**

1. Believers can go to Heaven without being saved. True or False
  2. Humans have the ability to save themselves. True or False
  3. Because of salvation believers are forgiven of sins. True or False
  4. Because of salvation believers have peace with God. True or False
  5. God saves all who call upon Him. True or False
  6. What are the three steps in the conversion experience?
- 

7. What is the change in the life of a believer (II Corinthians 5:17, Romans 6:4) \_\_\_\_\_.

8. The wages of sin is (Romans 6:23) \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Salvation delivers believers from the \_\_\_\_\_(Romans 6:14).
10. Repentance is the \_\_\_\_\_step in the conversion experience.

**All believers should know the basic facts about:**

### **The Church**

God calls believers into fellowship with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Believers are told to assemble together to encourage each other (Hebrews 10:25). Jesus in His instruction to His disciples gives us the purpose of the church in what is known as the Great Commission. There He states:

*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. (Matthew 28:19-20 KJV)*

The responsibility of the church is to spread and share the good news of the gospel throughout the world. To that end members of the church have the privilege of serving God and their fellow man. Some of the basic responsibilities of church members (Christians) are as follows:

*Love the church:* (Ephesians 5:25) Just as Christ loved believers, the church, believers are to love one another (the church). There must be love among and between members of the church. Christ set the example in this area by giving Himself for the church. We as the church ought to give of our time, talent and resources to the church.

*Worship the Lord.* (Psalm 95:6, 96:6, 150) God desires the worship and praise of His people. The church is the meeting place where believers

assemble to offer worship and praise to God as one. Worship and praise of God is both public and private (Matthew 6:6, Luke 4:16). The church is the physical location where believers can offer uninterrupted worship and praise to God.

*Serve the Lord.* (Luke 22:21, John 9:4, 1 Corinthians 10:31, 15:58) God calls all believers into service. God has placed within each believer a gift that is to be used to bring Him glory. In service to the church we are to use those God-given gifts.

*Keep God's commandments.* (John 14:21, John 15:10, 14) By adhering to God's commandments believers show their love for God. While no one is sinless all believers should always be striving to remain obedient to the Word of God.

*Support the ministry.* (Proverbs 3:9, Malachi 3:8-12, Luke 6:38, 2 Corinthians 9:7) Believers provide the financial assistance needed to sustain the operations of the church. We must give financially as God has prospered us. By properly giving to the church we give to ourselves. How? When believers give to God He blesses them in return.

### **Review of The Church:**

1. Believers are not required to serve God. True or False
2. Jesus loved the church. True or False
3. God does not desire the worship of believers. True or False
4. Believers should support the ministry. True or False
5. Believers don't have to share the gospel. True or False
6. Believers don't have to keep God's commandments. True or False
7. Believers serve God and man. True or False



## Ordinances of the Church

Ordinance - An authoritative decree or law.

Jesus commands the Christian Church to observe two ordinances, ***Baptism*** and the ***Lord's Supper***. There are some basic facts all Christians must know regarding each of these ordinances:

### **Baptism**

The Ordinance of Baptism is a symbol of the believer's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6:3, Colossians 2:12). Baptism means to be entirely immersed or submerged in water (Mark 1:5, John 3:33).

#### **Christians must know that Baptism:**

*Was commanded by Christ.* (Matthew 28:19) Jesus tells believers that they must baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*Does not save.* (Mark 16:16) Belief in Christ saves, not baptism. Baptism is the outward expression of believer's and their willingness to follow Christ.

*Water is used to perform baptism.* (Acts 10:47-48, 1 Peter 3:21) Water is a cleansing agent and is used symbolically as the washing away of sin.

#### **Christians must also be baptized into Christ.**

Baptism into Christ signifies that believers have been buried and risen with Christ. (Romans 6:3-7)

Believers are baptized by one Spirit into one body. The body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:13).

Believers are baptized into Christ. (Galatians 3:27)

Believers are buried with Christ in baptism and rise with Him through faith. (Colossians 3:11-13).

### **There are two types of Baptism:**

- Spirit
- Water

### **Spirit Baptism:**

Baptism of the Spirit is the act of the Holy Spirit when He makes us a part of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13). Every believer experiences this baptism. It takes place the very moment we believe and receive Jesus Christ as Savior (Ephesians 4:5, Colossians 2:12, 1 Peter 3:21, Mark 1:4-8).

### **Water Baptism:**

By being submerged in water believers symbolize we are baptized into the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. Believers are cut off from the Adamic life because of baptism into the death of Christ. (Romans 6:3-7).

In order for humans to be baptized they must first believe that Jesus is the Son of God. (Acts 8:37-39).

### **Believers must know these basic facts about:**

#### **The Lord's Supper**

The Lord's Supper took place before the death of Christ. Jesus and His disciples went into a closed room where He washed their feet and shared with them bread and wine, which symbolized the body and blood of Christ. As Believers partake of the Lord's Supper, we must remember Christ, receive strength from Him and rededicate ourselves to Him and His cause. (1 Corinthians 11:23-34).

*The Lord's Supper is an established ordinance.* ( Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:15-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26) Jesus established the Lord's Supper and expects all believers to continue to participate in it.

*The Lord's Supper was given to the Church.* (Luke 22:17-20, 1 Corinthians 11:18). The Church, believers, are expected to remain obedient to Christ in all things.

*The Lord's Supper is a memorial to the death of our Lord and Savior.* (Mark 14:22).

### **The Lord's Supper Is Called:**

- Communion (I Corinthians 10:16)
- The Breaking of Bread (Acts 2:42, 46, 20:7)
- The Cup of Blessing (1 Corinthians 10:16)
- The Eucharist
- The Last Supper
- The Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:20)
- The Lord's Table (1 Corinthians 10:21)

### **Symbols used in the Lord's Supper and their significance:**

- The **Table** is the place of love, fellowship, sharing and communion. It is the family table- a love feast - a meal. (Leviticus 24:5-9, Psalm 23:5)
- The **Bread** (Isaiah 53:5) represents His broken body (Matthew 26:26). It is the type of the Lamb that was slain.
- The **Wine** is a symbol of the Blood of Christ that was shed for our sins, which we as believers do in remembrance of the Lord. During the Lord's Supper, we ask for forgiveness of all our sins. It represents the New Covenant (Matthew 26:27).

## **The believer should do as follows as they prepare to partake of the Lord's Supper:**

### **Come:**

- In remembrance of Christ's death on the cross for "me" (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).
- To the table with a desire to participate (Luke 22:14-15).
- In faith ( Hebrews 4:2, 11:6, Romans 14:23).
- In remembrance of what Christ did for you (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). The Israelites remembered sins. His Church remembers Him.
- With Thanksgiving (Luke 22:17).
- Examining their hearts (1 Corinthians 11:28) making sure we are in the right standing with God and our brothers and sisters (1 Corinthians 11:27, Psalm 24:3-5).
- With a repentant and thankful heart (1 Corinthians 10:21).
- In a spirit of fellowship and love (1 Corinthians 10:16-17).
- In Holy fear (Matthew 26:24, 1 Corinthians 11:27-32).
- In self examination (1 Corinthians 11:28).

### **With a threefold look at Christ.**

- A **Backward look** to Calvary - Jesus' death - His suffering for us.
- An **Upward look** to Heaven - Jesus' resurrection - His ascension - sitting at the right hand of the Father.

- A **Forward look** to Jesus' coming when we will meet Him.

### **Review of Church Ordinances:**

1. How many ordinances are there in the church? \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What are those ordinances? \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Bread and wine represent the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ.
4. What are three names used to describe the Lord's Supper?
  - A. \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Believers come to partake of the Lord's Supper in (Luke 22:17) \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The table is a place of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
7. What are the two types of baptism? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Does baptism save sinners? (Mark 16:16) \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Did Jesus command believers to baptize? (Matthew 28:19) \_\_\_\_\_.
10. What property is used to perform baptism? (Acts 10:47-48) \_\_\_\_\_.

## Lesson 3

### God's Word, Prayer and Tithe

#### Holy Bible

*“Bible” derives from the Greek term “books” and refers to the Old and New Testaments. God’s Holy Scriptures, the Holy Bible, was written by men divinely inspired by God and it records God’s revelation of Himself to humans. It has God, the Holy Spirit for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without mixture of error for its matter. The Bible above all talks about God and His relationship to the world. The Bible is a rule or standard of authority for Christians.*

The Bible is divided into two parts. The Old Testament which was primarily written in Hebrew, with some portions of Ezra, Nehemiah and Daniel in Aramaic, consists of thirty-nine books. The New Testament which was written in Greek, consists of twenty-seven books. Combined, there are sixty-six books in the entire Bible.

#### **These are the books of the Bible:**

##### **(5) Books of The Law (*Old Testament*)**

Genesis    Deuteronomy  
Exodus    Leviticus  
Numbers

##### **(17) Books of Prophecy (*Old Testament*)**

Isaiah    Jeremiah    Lamentation    Ezekiel  
Daniel    Hosea    Joel    Amos  
Obadiah    Jonah    Micah    Nahum  
Habakkuk    Zephaniah    Haggai    Zechariah    Malachi

##### **The (12) Books of History (*Old Testament*)**

Joshua    Judges    1 Samuel    2 Samuel

1 Kings 2 Kings 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles  
Ezra Nehemiah Ruth Esther

**(5) Books of Poetry / Wisdom (*Old Testament*)**

Job Psalm Proverbs Ecclesiastes  
Song of Solomon

**New Testament The (4) Gospels (*New Testament*)**

Matthew Mark  
Luke John

**(1) Book of Apostolic History (*New Testament*)**

Acts

**(1) Book of Apostolic Prophecy (*New Testament*)**

Revelation

**The (21) Letters (*New Testament*)**

Romans Titus 1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians  
Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians  
1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians 1 Timothy  
2 Timothy Philemon Hebrews James  
1 Peter 2 Peter 1 John 2 John  
3 John Jude

**The Bible:**

- Is life to believers (Deuteronomy 8:3)
- Enlightens believers (Psalm 119:103-105)
- Is knowledge and power to believers (Matthew 22:29)
- Offers comfort to believers (Romans 15:4)
- Tells believers that God loved them first (1 John 4:19)

- Lists the Commandments of God (Exodus 20)
- Lists the greatest Commandment ( Matthew 22:41-46, Mark 12:28-31)
- Informs believers of the fact that God is the Shepherd to His people (Psalm 23)
- Tells believers of the power of faith (Matthew 21:18-22)
- Tells Believers of the power of God over all things (Mark 4:35-41)
- Tells believers of the power of prayer and praise (Acts 16:23-26)
- Tells believers that all are sinners (Romans 3:23)
- Tells believers that they are free from sin (Romans 6:12-14)
- Tells believers that they must act on what they hear in or from the Word of God (James 1:22-25)
- Tells believers that their faith is displayed in their actions (James 2:14)
- Tells believers that Jesus will return (1 Thessalonians 4:16)

### **Review of The Holy Bible:**

1. The Bible is divided into two parts, they are the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. How many books make up the Old Testament?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. How many books are there total in the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Who is the author of the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_.



5. The Bible tells believers that their \_\_\_\_\_ is displayed in their Actions? (James 2:14)
6. The Bible does not tell believers that Jesus will return. (1 Thessalonians 4:16) True or False
7. The Bible tells believers that there is power in their praise. (Acts 16:23-26) True or False
8. The Bible tells believers that they loved God first. (I John 4:19) True or False
9. The Bible tells believers that they can never be free from sin. (Romans 6:12-14) True or False
10. God is the Shepherd of His people. True or False

### Prayer

Prayer is the means of communication from believers to God. It is the believers greatest weapon. It is used to both talk too and hear from God. When properly used it allows the believer to speak intimately with God and strengthens the relationship between believers and God.

#### **Prayer is:**

*Commanded by God* (Luke 18:1) Believers must be obedient to God in all things that He has commanded them to do. Believers must always pray and never lose hope.

*The means by which believers do great things* (James 5:16) Prayer turns the request of believers into reality. Through prayer the believer can make a difference in his of her life and the lives of others that he or she prays for.

*Taught by Christ* (Matthew 6:5-15) Believers must pray in a manner that



3. Prayer is needed in critical moments. True or False
4. Prayer was commanded by God. True or False
5. Believers don't have to pray in the name of Jesus. True or False
6. A prayer should never end with "Amen." True or False
7. Prayer is not the way to communicate with God. True or False
8. Prayer is a time to speak and not listen. True or False
9. Prayer strengthens the bond between God and man. True or False

### **Tithe and Offering**

God has a financial plan for His Church. He works by plans and has a plan for everything. He had a plan when He created the earth and Humans. He had a plan for the relationship between humans and Himself. He has a plan for the family. He has a plan of salvation and the work of the Church. He has a plan for the financing of the work He has ordered the Church to perform.

**Tithe** - Tenth part, especially as offer to God. 10 percent.

Abraham presented a tithe to the Priest-king of Jerusalem, Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20).

Jacob pledged to offer to God, a tenth of all that God would bless Jacob with (Genesis 28:22).

### **Old Testament Purpose of Tithing?**

The tithe was used for support of the Levites and the priests (Numbers 18:20-32).

The agricultural produce tithe was used for a family feast at the sanctuary celebrating God's provision (Deuteronomy 14:22-27).

The third year's tithe was to be used for the care of the Levites, orphans widows, and foreigners (Deuteronomy 14:28-29).

### **Consequences of Disobedience Regarding Tithing**

Those that were disobedient in regards to tithing were condemned with a curse from God. (Malachi 3:8-9).

### **Results of Tithing**

Those that are obedient in tithing are blessed by God in return (Malachi 3:10-12).

## **New Testament**

### **Jesus Taught Tithing**

In Malachi 3:1-4 we have a prophecy that the Lord will come and teach people how to live righteously and in a manner that is consistent with God's will. The fact is then stated that Israel has robbed God in not bringing the tithe to God. In Jesus Christ, Malachi's prophecy is fulfilled. Jesus taught in Matthew 23:23 that acceptable living includes the tithe and also the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy and faith. The tithe alone is not enough. Believers must live right also.

### **Other Teachings In The New Testament**

We believe in God's plan in all, and we believe that every member of the church should be a tither, bringing to the Lord a tenth of their income. This plan of finance would meet all of the financial needs of the church. This in turn would mean God's people would be able to do mighty works for Him in carrying out the will of Christ in Matthew 28:19-20.

## **Review of Tithe and Offering:**

1. What percentage of a person's income is the tithe? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the purpose of the tithe?
  - A. Numbers 18:20-32 \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. Deuteronomy 14:22-27 \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. Deuteronomy 14:28-29 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What are the consequences of disobedience regarding tithing? (Malachi 3:8-9) \_\_\_\_\_
4. What are the results of being fully obedient regarding tithing? (Malachi -3:10-12) \_\_\_\_\_

## **Lesson 4**

### **Ministries of Nolan**

1. Man Down, Man Up Men's Ministry
2. Sister 2 Sister Women's Ministry
3. N.M.B.C Choir
4. Young Adults Ministry
5. Youth Ministry
6. Worship Arts Ministry
7. Praise Ministry
8. Music Ministry
9. Hospitality Ministry

10. Culinary Arts Ministry
11. Benevolent Ministry
12. Security Ministry
13. Marriage Ministry
14. Sound Ministry
15. Groundskeeper
16. Event Planning and Organizing Committee
17. Home Mission Ministry
18. Storehouse Ministry

### **Principles For Christian Service**

Nolan Missionary Baptist Church is obedient to the Word of God. In doing so we strive to carry out our mission statement in our living. To that end we have adopted and adhere to five principles. They are as follows:

1. **Discipleship** - Service. Discipleship consists of being of service to others.
2. **Students** - Self Improvement. By being a Bible student we learn more about God and His will thus improving our own conditions as we are transformed into His likeness.
3. **Teachers** - As we learn and grow closer to God He wants us to share Him with others. We do so by teaching, through our living, what we have learned as students. While we will always be students, we must move to the dual role of student/teacher.

**4. Leaders** - Example Setters. Although we realize that none are perfect each of us should be striving to live a life that pleases God. We recognize that others, some that we are not aware of look to us for guidance and we must lead by example.

**5. Evangelists** - Soul Winners. This takes us back to the Great Commission and our mission statement. We must reach out to others.

Ask God, through prayer, to lead you to the place within His body where He wants you to serve. In the book of 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 the Apostle Paul tells us that there are many members that make up the body of Christ. Each member has a specific role or duty to perform. All members are vital to the body and no one member is more important than another.

Through the active participation in one or more ministries you will find that God can do a mighty work in, with and through you. You will grow in Christ through participation in the worship experience, Sunday School, Bible Study and other forms of Christian development offered here at Nolan. Your personal prayer life and Christian study time will also determine your Christian growth. We are a church family where all are accepted for who we are, forgiven of what we've done and loved because of Christ. As we move forward in God's Will we are persuaded that He has already made the way and fought the battles. We claim the victory but know that the work must be performed by us. We as a church are committed to rolling up our sleeves and doing a mighty work for the Lord.

God has given us a vision and while we may not be able to see it with our natural sight, we as His people will not be deterred because we walk by faith and not by sight. For that reason, and because God is with us, our future is bright.

Again, welcome to Nolan Missionary Baptist Church!