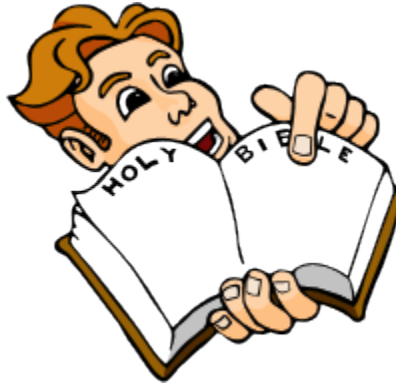


ANSWER KEY!



Basics of this class!

1. **The church is a family.**
 2. **God expects me to be a member of a church family.**
 3. **A Christian without a church family is an orphan.**
- Goal of this class is: I will commit myself to Christ and to the MorningStar Community Church family.

I. SESSION ONE: OUR SALVATION

What is the real meaning of life? But the fact is real happiness comes from understanding my purpose.

1. **Why am I here?**

1. God made me to love me.
2. We were created to enjoy a personal relationship with God and to manage all of the rest of God's creation.

2. **What's the problem?**

Man has a natural desire to be his own boss and to ignore God's principles for living.
The Bible calls this attitude sin.

3. **What's The Solution?**

John 14:6 *"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except through Me."*

4. **What does God want me to do? Four things:**

1. Admit. 1 John 1:9 Says, *"If we confess our sins He's faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from every wrong."*

2. Believe. Romans 10:9 says, *"If you confess that Jesus is your Lord, and you believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."*

3. Accept Ephesians 2:8-9 says, *"It is by grace you are saved through faith and it is not of yourselves. It is the gift of God. Not of works so no one could boast."*

4. Invite Jesus Christ to come into my life and be the Lord of my life. *"To all who receive Him, He*

gives the right to become the children of God. All we need to do is to trust Him to save us. All those who believe this are reborn. Not a physical rebirth but from the will of God." John 1:12-13

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING BAPTIZED.

1. Why should I be baptized?

1. To follow the example set by Christ.
2. Because Christ commands it
3. It demonstrates that I'm really a believer.

II. What is the meaning of baptism?

1. It illustrates Christ's death, burial and resurrection.
2. Baptism illustrates my new life as a Christian.

III. Why should I be baptized by immersion?

1. Because Jesus was baptized that way.
2. Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion.
3. The word "Baptize" literally means, "dip under water." The Greek word *baptizo* means to dip under water.
4. It best symbolizes a burial and resurrection. The founders of denominations agree about this.

IV. Who should be baptized? Every person who believed in Christ.

THE MEANING OF LORD'S SUPPER

What is the Lord's Supper? (1 Cor. 11:23-26)

1. It is a simple act.

2. It is a reminder.
3. It is a symbol.
4. It's a statement of faith.

Who Should Take the Lord's Supper? Only those who are already believers.

How do I prepare myself for the Lord's Supper?
Prayer and self-examination before we do it.

When and how often should we observe the Lord's Supper? *The Bible doesn't say.*

II. SESSION TWO: THE MORNINGSTAR STATEMENTS

Our Purpose Statement: As a Kingdom First Church, we believe a great commitment to the great commandment and the great commission will grow a great church.

Matthew 22:36-40, **The great Commandment & the Great Commission** (Matt. 28:19-20).
So we exist for these five reasons.

1. We exist to celebrate God's presence (worship).
 2. We exist to demonstrate God's love (ministry).
- The heartbeat of MorningStar is our small groups

At MorningStar we believe that every member is a minister.
Therefore, every task is important.
And ever every member is a "10" in some area.

3. We exist to communicate God's word. (Evangelism).
We believe the church must grow spiritually and numerically at the same time.
4. We exist to incorporate God's people into His family (fellowship).
It's the family you belong to.
5. We exist to educate God's people. (Discipleship)

III. SESSION THREE: THE MORNINGSTAR STRATEGY

So the next question is, "What kind of church are we going to be?" Every church has a strategy behind it.

The five circles of commitment.

At the center of our church is the "core".
The next group out is called that "Committed."
The next group out is the "Congregation."
The next group out is the "Crowd."
The outer circle is what we call the "Community." The Community is everybody within driving distance of our church that we want to reach for Jesus Christ.

MorningStar's objective is to keep people *moving to the center by encouraging spiritual commitment*. We do this by asking each person to take all four of our Kingdom First Classes!

In each of these classes we have a covenant.

The **Membership Covenant** is a commitment to Christ and the MorningStar Community Church Family.
The **Maturity Covenant** is a commitment to the habits necessary for spiritual growth.
The **Ministry Covenant**, which is a commitment to discovering and using my God-given gifts and abilities in servicing God and others.
The **Missions Covenant** which is a commitment to "share the Good News with others." In other words, we teach you how to share your faith in Jesus with others.

Why do we have these commitments?
We become what we're committed to.

IV. SESSION FOUR: THE MORNINGSTAR STRUCTURE

Every church has a structure behind it. So how should a church be organized? Let's look at what the Bible says.

1. **The Bible says the church is a fellowship.**
As Christians, a top priority in fellowship is harmony and unity.
The implication of this is that however you organize your church a good structure should promote unity and downplay differences which divide us. We should organize in a way that *minimizes our differences and maximizes* what we have in common.
Congregational voting tends to divide us!
2. **The church is a family.**
So because we're a family, we operate on the basis of relationships more than rules. Why? Because the greater the relationship, the fewer rules you need. The stronger the relationship you just trust people.
3. **The church is a body.**
Therefore at MorningStar we desire to function on the basis of spiritual gifts (your abilities and talents) and passions. In other words, whatever you're good at you ought to do in this church.

The people are the ministers and the pastors are the administrators.

4. **The church is a flock.**
Therefore the church is cared for and led by shepherds.

