



REFUGE INTERNATIONAL

FULL LIFE MINISTRIES

New Member Orientation

This orientation is designed to help you understand what the Christian faith is all about and how Refuge International Full Life Ministries can help you experience full life in Christ.

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

Salvation is as easy as ABC...

1. Admit your need for your salvation - (Romans 3:23)
2. Believe in Christ - (Romans 10:9,10)
3. Commit your life to Christ - (St. John 1:12,13)

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. Facts are not Feelings (Colossians 2:6). We are saved based upon what God promised in His Word. This is a matter of faith and our feelings do not have to agree. As long as our belief in God agrees with what He said in His Word, then we are saved by faith. And that is a matter of fact, regardless of our feelings!
2. Inner Witness: (1 John 4:13, Romans 8:16). God provides confirmation through His Holy Spirit and His Word that we belong to Him.
3. New Creation: (2 Corinthians 5:17). At the moment we accept Christ in faith, we are saved, and our old life is no longer our reality. God does not hold the past against us, and we become freed to walk in our new life in Christ.

THINGS YOU WILL HAVE

1. Hunger for Bible Study - (1 Peter 2:2)
2. Desire for holy living - (1 John 2:3)
3. Love of others - (1 John 4:7)
4. Desire to tell others about Christ - (Acts 4:20)

LEARNING TO PRAY – (Philippians 4:6,7)

Prayer is simply conversing with God: talking with Him, listening to Him, and being in His presence. It includes sharing your thoughts, feelings, doubts, complaints, hopes and joy. Prayer involves: a) confessing sins, b) worshipping God, c) committing yourself to obey Him, d) giving thanks, e) making requests for yourself and others, and f) making yourself available to God.

Admittance to the vocation of prayers is by an enrollment test of only two questions:

1. Are you in real need?
2. Do you admit that you are helpless to hand that need?

Hindrances to Prayer:

1. Not praying in faith - (James 1:5-8)
2. Not asking - (Matthew 21:22)
3. Asking for wrong requests - (James 4:3)
4. Unconfessed sins - (Psalm 66:18)
5. Material problems - (1 Peter 3:7)
6. Requests not in God's will - (1 John 5:14-15)

POWER FOR LIVING

Christianity was born in a world of trouble. The Roman world of the First Century was awash in demoralization and evilness. Today, we can see thought-provoking parables between the period of decline of the Roman Empire and our time today.

After His resurrection, Jesus made it plain to the disciples that they were going to need His power for living to cope in such a disintegrating society. Therefore, he instructed them to wait in Jerusalem until the Spirit came upon them.

HOW THE HOLY GHOST MEETS PERSONAL NEEDS

1. Being filled with the Holy Ghost - (Acts 1:8, 2:1-5)
2. Christ in you - (Galatians 2:20)
3. Controlled by the Holy Ghost - (Ephesians 5:18)
4. Desire - (Matthew 5:6)
5. Surrender - (Romans 12:1)
6. Obedience - (1 John 2:3)
7. Confession - (1 John 1:9)
8. Evidence of His Filling - (Galatians 5:22-23)

OBEDIENCE

In the New Testament, faith is interpreted as obedience to the scriptures, and thus, unbelief is disobedience (Romans 6:17, 10:16). Christian obedience means initiating God's holiness (1 Peter 1:15), Christ's humility and love (St. John 13:14,34), and submission to divinely instituted authority of the scriptures (Romans 13, Ephesians 6:1).

Obedience requires that we...

1. Know God's commands - (2 Timothy 3:15-17)
2. Draw on God's power to obey - (Philippians 4:13, Acts 1:8)
3. Delight in doing God's will - (Psalm 40:8)
4. Take care in doing God's will - (Deuteronomy 26:16)

GIVING

Scriptures teach us that giving is a result of our relationship with God. In the Old Testament, the principle of tithing was introduced as a means for God to bless his people (Psalm 4:5, Proverbs 3:9-10, Malachi 3:6-10). The New Testament further illustrates how believers ought to give:

1. Based on your desire to prosper - (2 Corinthians 9:6)
2. Cheerfully - (2 Corinthians 9:7)
3. Faithfully - (2 Corinthians 9:8-9)
4. Responsibly - (1 Peter 4:10)

TEMPTATION

God tests His people to prove and strengthen their faith and loyalty. Trials strengthen spiritual muscles and form us into people fit for Heaven. However, Satan's goal in tempting us is to damage out trust and drive us into despair and rebellion.

In reality, we tempt ourselves to sin when we entertain corrupt desires. While Satan entices us to commit sin, God never tempts us to sin. God uses circumstances that He knows will challenge us for good. Our aim is to grow stronger in trials rather than falling victim to them.

Temptations...

1. Are not sin - (James 1:14,15)
2. Can be resisted - (1 Corinthians 10:13, Galatians 5:16)
3. Have three sources: world, flesh and Satan - (1 John 2:15, Galatians 5:16, Revelation 20:7-10)

BAPTISM

After becoming a Christian, the next step is to be baptized. Baptism is necessary for the following reason:

1. To follow Christ's example - (Mark 1:9)
2. It is a commandment - (Matthew 28:19-20)
3. Identifies believers - (Acts 18:8)
4. Illustrates Christ's burial and resurrection - (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)
5. Illustrates new life in Christ - (2 Corinthians 5:17)

At Refuge, we baptize by immersion in accordance with the scriptures (Matthew 3:16, Acts 8:38-39). The word baptism means to dip under water. Water baptism is an outward sign of the inward work of salvation, identifying those who have repented of their sins, and have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, and who give clear evidence of their salvation (Romans 6:3-5, Colossians 2:12).

HOLY COMMUNION

Participating in Holy Communion of the Lord's Supper is one of God's holy commands for all believers. This sacred ordinance is an act of worship where believers partake of the Lord's Supper together, praising God and giving thanks for the ultimate sacrifice of Christ on the cross. The Lord's Supper is observed regularly as enjoined in the Scriptures (Luke 22:19-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26). Holy Communion is observed every 1st Sunday following the gospel message.