

## **“First Things First Bible Study” Outline for 5/28/20**

**Introduction:** What we hope to provide through this recorded Bible Study:

1. **Bible Study Material.** Based on the study of Acts Chapter 2, we discovered the “first things” for the Church and now we are going to look at each of Paul’s letters to see how they are repeated in the first part of his writings to each church. Therefore the name, “First Things First.” We found at the core of our Acts 2 Bible Study 3 important points to Peter’s sermon that lead to the response of the people to become the first church. They were: 1) the influence of the Holy Spirit, 2) The Identity of Jesus, 3) The purpose or mission of Jesus. When the people were impacted by these they believed and responded in repenting and being baptized receiving forgiveness of their sins and the gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit. That’s the beginning of the church, and it continued through the people devoting themselves to the Apostles’ teaching, fellowship, sharing the Lord’s Supper, prayer, worship and sharing the message of Jesus to others. If these “first things” are the core elements in the first church, they should be core elements that Paul would have included in his writings to the churches he help plant or in which he helped grow and develop leadership. We encourage every Bible Study session to look for these core “first things” in every book of the Bible that Paul wrote and see if this is true.
2. **Practical Small Group and Bible Class Discussion material.** But beyond the Bible Study, if these “first things” are the core elements for every church in the Bible, they should be the core elements for our church today, and in every Christian life. We encourage every group Bible Study to discussion this application.
3. **Make Personal Application.** We have formulated 4 Key Questions that will continually be used as we move through the Bible Study to make group and personal applications, and we will encourage you to pause this recording from time to time for each member of your group to make personal application. This is a very important part of this study! Here are the 4 questions that we encourage you to use at the start and ending of each session:
  - 1) How were you influenced through the Holy Spirit this week?
  - 2) How were you committed to the identity and mission of Jesus this week?
  - 3) In what ways did you react in faith and obedience this week?
  - 4) How has God blessed your commitments this week?

**Our Bible Study:** This week we begin our Bible Study looking for the 3 primary points of the Influence of the Holy Spirit, The Identity of Jesus, and His Purpose or Mission in Romans chapter 1. Let’s have a prayer and then we will discuss what we found – **you may wish to pause** this recording and do this with your group before you hear what we came up with.

**Search for 3 Core Elements in Romans 1:1-17: - Results:**

- 1) Spirit's Influence: Declaring the Gospel with power (1:6), Spiritual gifts (1:11)
- 2) Jesus' Identity: (vs. 1-6) David's Son (Fulfillment of Prophecy), God's Son (Deity in Flesh – Incarnation, see John 1), Christ (Messiah – God's Anointed Prophet, Priest and King), Lord (Ultimate Authority as Ruler)
- 3) Jesus' Purpose/Mission: Call people to obedience that comes by faith to belong to Christ 1:6 through the gospel that saves and brings righteousness of God 1:16

**May wish to Pause** before to do the following as a groups before joining us:

**Search for the Response to the 3 Core Elements in Romans 1:1-17. Results:**

Obedied in faith to belong to Christ through the Gospel the power to save and bring righteousness 1:6, 16-17

**Discuss Application.** So now we want to talk about how this might be applied to us. How will we see the 3 Core Elements this week in our walk with the Lord and live them out?

**To Prepare for Next Week.** We will dig deeper into the Book of Romans and see how we have been discussing develops throughout the book. You may want to read through the book of Romans before your next meeting. But we encourage you most of all to apply these 4 Application Questions this week and be ready to share with your group how you experienced them.

**Repeat the Questions:**

1. How were you influenced through the Holy Spirit this week?
2. How were you committed to the identity and mission of Jesus this week?
3. In what ways did you react in faith and obedience this week?
4. How has God blessed your commitments this week?