

# New Believers Bible Study

**7. Foundations of Faith** : Exploring basic doctrines such as the Trinity, the deity of Christ, and the nature of God.

Foundations of Faith are the bedrock upon which Christian belief is built, encompassing fundamental truths that underpin the Christian worldview. The Trinity, a central tenet of Christian theology, asserts the belief in one God existing eternally in three distinct persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). This concept emphasizes both the unity and diversity within the Godhead. The deity of Christ is another essential doctrine, affirming that Jesus Christ is not merely a human prophet or teacher but is fully God incarnate (John 1:1, 14; Colossians 2:9). Understanding the nature of God involves recognizing His attributes, such as His holiness, omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence (Psalm 139:7-10; Isaiah 6:3). These foundational doctrines provide believers with a framework for understanding God's nature and character, guiding their worship, and shaping their spiritual journey.

## **Matthew 28:19**

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

This verse is often referred to as the Great Commission, where Jesus instructs his disciples to spread the Gospel throughout the world. The Trinitarian formula mentioned here—baptizing in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—underscores the foundational Christian belief in the triune nature of God. It affirms the unity of the Godhead while recognizing the distinct roles of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in the work of redemption and the mission of the Church.

This verse serves as a cornerstone for understanding the doctrine of the Trinity and highlights the essential role of baptism in the life of believers as they identify with the triune God.

## **John 1:1**

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

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This verse introduces the profound theological concept of the Word (logos), identified with Jesus Christ, existing eternally with God and as God. It emphasizes the pre-existence and divine nature of Christ, affirming his coexistence with God the Father from the very beginning.

By stating "the Word was God," this verse underscores the deity of Christ, portraying him not as a created being but as the eternal Son of God, sharing the same divine essence as the Father.

John 1:1 lays a foundation for understanding Jesus' role in creation, his significance in fulfilling God's redemptive plan, and his unique relationship with the Father. It is a cornerstone of Christian doctrine regarding the identity of Jesus Christ as fully God and fully human.

## **John 1:14**

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

This verse encapsulates the profound mystery of the Incarnation—the Word, who was with God and was God (as described in John 1:1), took on human form and dwelt among humanity.

It speaks to the central Christian belief that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became fully human while retaining his divine nature. The phrase "made his dwelling among us" underscores the intimacy of God's presence with humanity through Jesus Christ.

Through his incarnation, Jesus revealed the glory of God to humanity, embodying grace and truth. John 1:14 affirms the deity of Christ by declaring him to be the unique and only Son who came from the Father, while also emphasizing his humanity by emphasizing his dwelling among humanity.

This verse lays the foundation for understanding the dual nature of Christ and his pivotal role in reconciling humanity to God.

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## **Colossians 2:9**

"For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form."

This verse emphasizes the profound truth of the incarnation, affirming that in Jesus Christ, the entirety of God's nature and essence dwells bodily. It underscores the deity of Christ, declaring that he is not merely a representation of God or a partial manifestation of divinity but that he embodies the fullness of God himself.

This verse counters any notion that Jesus was merely a human or a created being, asserting his absolute and complete divine nature. By stating that the fullness of the Deity resides in Christ, Colossians 2:9 solidifies the foundational Christian belief in the hypostatic union—the union of divine and human natures in the person of Jesus Christ. It highlights the uniqueness of Christ and his unparalleled role in revealing God's nature and fulfilling God's redemptive plan for humanity.

## **Psalms 139:7-10**

"Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast."

This passage from Psalm 139 reflects on the omnipresence and omniscience of God. It affirms that there is nowhere one can go to escape God's presence; He is ever near and intimately acquainted with every aspect of our lives. The imagery of going up to the heavens or descending to the depths emphasizes the extent of God's presence—it spans beyond the physical realm into the spiritual and metaphysical. Even in the farthest reaches of the earth, God's guidance and protection are assured. Psalm 139:7-10 serves as a foundational affirmation of God's sovereignty and care, providing believers with comfort and assurance that they are always held securely within His grasp, no matter where they may find themselves.

## **Isaiah 6:3**

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"And they were calling to one another: 'Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.'"

This verse captures a vision of the prophet Isaiah where he sees angelic beings called seraphim worshiping the Lord in the heavenly throne room. The repetition of "holy" three times emphasizes the absolute purity, perfection, and transcendence of God's nature. The title "LORD Almighty" underscores God's sovereignty and power over all creation.

The declaration that the whole earth is full of His glory speaks to the pervasive presence of God's majesty and splendor throughout the entire cosmos. Isaiah 6:3 provides a profound glimpse into the divine attributes of God—His holiness, majesty, and glory—inviting believers to reverence and worship Him with awe and humility. This verse serves as a foundational expression of God's transcendence and immanence, inspiring awe and adoration among those who recognize His supreme greatness.

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**Quiz:**( Fill-in-the-blanks )

44. Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make \_\_\_\_\_ of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

45. John 1:1 In the beginning was the \_\_\_\_\_, and the Word was with God, and the Word was \_\_\_\_\_.

46. John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only \_\_\_\_\_, who came from the Father, full of grace and \_\_\_\_\_.

47. Colossians 2:9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily \_\_\_\_\_.

48. Psalm 139:7-10 Where can I go from your \_\_\_\_\_? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are \_\_\_\_\_; if I make my bed in the depths, you are \_\_\_\_\_. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your \_\_\_\_\_ will guide me, your right hand will hold me \_\_\_\_\_.

49. Isaiah 6:3 And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the \_\_\_\_\_ Almighty; the whole earth is full of his \_\_\_\_\_."