

# Biblical Foundations for Ministry

## The Plan of Salvation: Faith

### 1. Saving faith

- a. To believe God can save (2 Cor. 1:9-10; Heb. 11:13-16)
- b. To commit to whatever God tells you to do
- c. A necessary condition for salvation (Mark 16:16; Heb. 11:6)

### 2. Faith commitment

- a. More than assent
  - 1) Believing the truths of God (revealed in his Word)
  - 2) Even demons believe there is a God (James 2:19)
- b. Surrender to God's will
  - 1) To commit, trust (and obey)
  - 2) In contrast to a dead faith that does not act (James 2:14-26)
  - 3) To submit to Jesus as Lord
    - a) The good confession (1 Tim. 6:12-15 and John 18:37)
    - b) Required for salvation (Rom. 10:9; 1 Peter 3:15)

### 3. Faith and works

- a. Good works
  - 1) An outworking of our faith (Eph. 2:8-10)
  - 2) An expression of gratitude
  - 3) An obligation we see more clearly
- b. Law keeping
  - 1) Not to earn God's favor (we live by grace)
  - 2) Because it is right by God

### 4. Reasoned decision

- a. Derived from hearing the gospel (Rom. 10:14-17; 1 Peter 1:23-25)
- b. Based upon convincing evidence (John 20:30-31)
  - 1) From credible witnesses (2 Peter 1:16-21; 1 John 1:1-4)
  - 2) Not a leap of faith, but a reasoned choice

### 5. Prerequisite to baptism

- a. Faith precedes baptism (Mark 16:16; Acts 2: 41; 8:12)
- b. No evidence of infant baptism (pedobaptism)
  - 1) In the New Testament
  - 2) In the first several centuries of church history

