

CHAPTER 3

Do You Know You Are a Christian?

Foundational Review

Last week we established that we are saints – and are loved. This seminar series builds from week to week as we move forward. If you miss a session, read the chapter and answer the discussion questions. This will prepare you for the session that we are currently studying.

PLEASE, read the material and fill out the Study Guide materials for each night before coming to the study session. This will make the discussion go so much smoother if you are already acquainted with topic. The Study Guide material is designed to be answered AFTER you have read the chapter.

Introduction

Yes, this is like a college class. Yes, you need to read the material. Yes, there will be an exam. It's called life...as a Seventh-day Adventist. The whole point of the book is that for the most part, most SDA's don't know who they are, don't know what they believe, and don't know what they are to be doing. Please read the material before coming to class.

■ The Seventh-day Adventist Church

QUESTION #1:

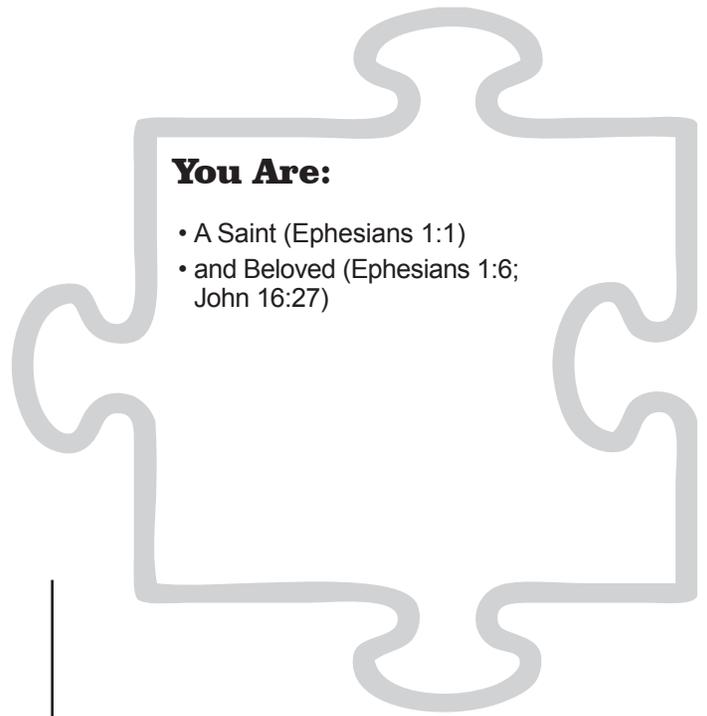
True or False: The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a cult. *(Circle one)*

QUESTION #2:

What is a cult?

Now answer the question again.

True or False: The SDA Church is a cult.



QUESTION #3:

True or False: The Seventh-day Adventist Church is Christian. *(Circle one)*

How do you know?

■ Summarize

What does it mean to be Christian? What does a Christian believe? This is our topic for discussion tonight. You will discover that many churches that claim to be Christian are not Christian. (It is not our business to advertise this around. We don't tear down other people's houses. We build a house next to theirs and invite them to visit us.)

Understand that tonight we are just barely skimming the surface of some very deep subjects. It is not our purpose to explore all of these topics to their depths, but to whet your appetite to want to learn more.

5 C's
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Let's look at the 5 C's which define what it means to be a Christian (and a hidden 6th C).

Chapter 3: Do You Know You Are a Christian?

The First “C”: Christ

(Messiah, the Anointed One)

QUESTION #1:

What does Anointed One mean? READ all these scriptures, then answer for each Scripture reference: What or who was “anointed” and what special property or meaning is conferred on that which has been anointed?



a. Exodus 29:29

b. Leviticus 8:10-11

c. 1 Samuel 9:26-10:1; 2 Samuel 1:14

d. 1 Samuel 16:13

e. Psalms 105:15

f. Isaiah 45:1

g. Isaiah 61:1

QUESTION #2:

READ Daniel 9:25-26. To what or to whom does “Anointed One” refer? Why?

QUESTION #3:

Who does the Bible say Jesus Christ is (“Christ” is Greek; “Messiah” is Hebrew)?

For each scripture, give a one to three word summary answer to the question.

READ John 1:1-3 and 14

READ Colossians 1:13-18

READ Matt. 16:16

READ John 6:68-69

READ 1 John 4:2

SUMMARIZE:

READ Acts 4:12; 1 John 5:12. Why is it important to know who Jesus is?

THINK IT THROUGH:

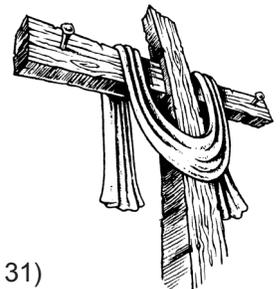
Do Seventh-day Adventists know who Jesus is?

The Second “C”: the Cross

QUESTION #1:

Historically

1. What was the cross and by whom was it used? (Matthew 27:22, 23, 26, 27, 31)



2. On whom was it used, and why? (John 19:17-19)



QUESTION #2:

What basic ideas about the cross do we learn from the following Scriptures?

READ 1 John 4:9

READ Mark 10:45

READ 1 John 2:2

READ 1 Peter 2:24

READ Romans 5:8

READ 1 Timothy 1:15

QUESTION #3:

What of significance was accomplished at the Cross?

READ John 19:30 (the Greek word is *τετελεσται* – *tetelestai* – it is finished!). What do you think was finished?

READ Rev. 12:10. Again, what was finished? (See Daniel 7:13-14)

SUMMARIZE:

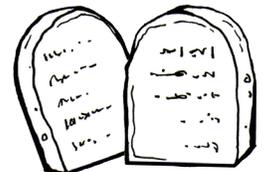
What did you learn about the Cross?

THINK IT THROUGH:

Do Seventh-day Adventists know the significance of the Cross? (Consider John 3:16) Explain why you think so.

**The Third “C”:
Commandments**

(Look for the hidden C – we will spend a lot more time on this later.)



QUESTION #1:

What are the four kinds of commandments? (One word answer to each section)

READ Exodus 16, 20:1-17; (repeat: Deut. 5:1-21) What kinds of laws are these?

READ Leviticus 1-7, 16-17, 21-25; Num. 6-10, 18-19, 28-29; Deut. 12-13, 16-19, 26. What kinds of laws are these?

READ Exodus 21-23; Lev. 18-20, 27; Num. 5, 15, 27-30, 35-36; Deut. 20-25. What kinds of laws are these?

READ Lev. 11-15; Deut. 14. What kinds of law are these?

QUESTION #2:

Do we have to obey *all* the Commandments?

READ carefully Matt. 5:18 before you answer.

QUESTION #3:

Why do we obey the Commandments? (Give three reasons from Scripture.)

READ Deut. 4:1 and Prov. 7:2

READ Deut. 6:5; 7:7-8; 8:16-18; 9:4-6 and Matt. 5:16

READ John 15:10, 11

QUESTION #4:

READ Matthew 22:37-40. Are you able to carry out these concepts consistently? Are you perfect? (Romans 7:18-24)

QUESTION #5:

READ – Ezekiel 36:26-27. (This is the hidden C!) Where can you find help to do what you find impossible to do in your own power?

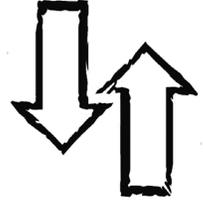
THINK IT THROUGH:

Do Seventh-day Adventists keep the Commandments in the way you just discovered? (This is important! More about this later)

**The Fourth “C”:
the Great Controversy**

QUESTION #1:

Explain the Great Controversy. Give Scripture answers ONLY to the following questions.



a. READ Rev. 12:7-9. Where did it begin?

b. READ Gen. 3:1-6. How did it get transferred to earth?

c. READ John 19:30. What was the deciding battle?

d. READ Eph. 6:10-13; 1 Peter 5:8; Rev. 12:17. What’s going on now in the Great Controversy?

e. READ Rev. 20:10, 14-15; Rev. 21:1-3. How will it end?

QUESTION #2:

Do other denominations know about this concept? How do you know that they know?

THINK IT THROUGH:

Do Seventh-day Adventists know about and understand the Great Controversy?

The Fifth “C”: the Second Coming



QUESTION #1:

Describe the Second Coming of Jesus Christ

a. READ Matt. 24:27-31. Is it literal?

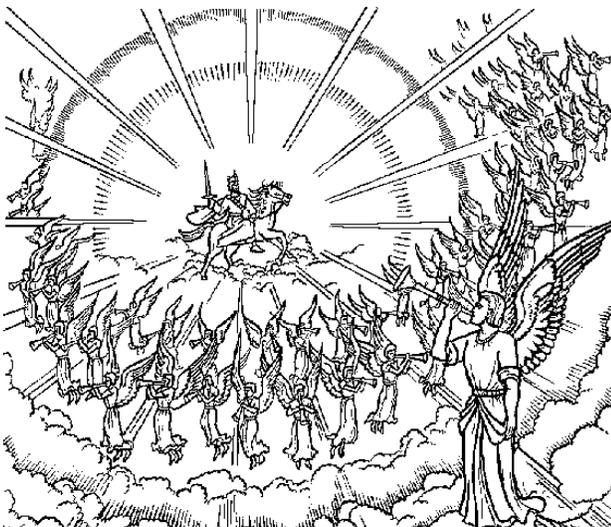
b. READ 1 Thess. 4:16-17. Is it visible?

c. READ 1 Thess. 4:16. Is it audible?

d. READ Rev. 1:7. How many will see this event happen?

e. READ 1 Cor. 15:51-52; 1 Thess. 4:16-17. What happens to the righteous?

f. READ 2 Thess. 2:8, 10; Rev. 14:17-20. What happens to the wicked?



QUESTION #2: Why are there so many theories about what will happen at the Second Coming of Jesus? (HINT: See the book chapter for a suggested answer)

WHAT DO YOU THINK:

Do Seventh-day Adventists believe in the literal, visible, audible Second Coming?

These 5 C's – these are what it means to be a Christian. Many people and many denominations are not Christian by these basic definitions.

Take Home

Thought Questions

Are you a Christian? How do you know?

Be prepared to give a reason for your faith, if asked:
Are the SDA's a cult or are they Christian?

