



**Regional Church**<sup>TM</sup>  
a Place of Grace

**FOUNDATIONS**

*What We Believe*

*By Valleta Lanier*

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**Regional Church Foundations**  
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All scripture New American Standard, unless otherwise noted.

# **Regional Church Foundations**

## **Part One**

### **God**

There is one, and only one, living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is omnipresent. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit with distinct personal attributes.

(1 Corinthians 8:6; too numerous to list)

### **God the Father**

God, as Father, reigns over His universe and His creatures. He is all powerful, all loving, and all wise. As Father, He loves all mankind and does not want anyone to perish. He desires fellowship with His children and wants everyone to be reconciled to Him through His son Jesus.

(Matthew 6:9; John 3:16; too numerous to list)

### **God the Son**

Jesus, the Christ, is the only begotten Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ, He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself a human nature and identifying Himself completely with mankind, yet without sin. He honored the Father's will by His personal obedience, and in His death on the cross, through the shedding of His blood, He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator between God and man. He is also the head of the Church, His body here on earth. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to reign.

(John 3:16; Luke 1:26-38; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Acts 2:33; Ephesians 1:18-23; Revelation 20)

### **God the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. He inspired men to write the Scriptures. He lives in fullness in every Child of God, and every child becomes the temple of God. Through revelation He enables men to understand truth, thereby being the teacher. He is also called the Spirit of Truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Savior, and transforms lives. He comforts believers, and manifests the spiritual gifts. He seals the believer in Christ and God. His presence in the Christian is the assurance to every believer that they are a child of God. He

enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

(John 14; John 16; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 1:13; Ro. 8:16; John 4:24)

### God's Word

God's Word comes to us in several different ways. The most familiar is His written Word, the Holy Bible. The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired by the Holy Spirit, and is the record of God's revelation of Himself to man. It is without error. God's Word is alive, and has the ability to transform lives. God's Word also comes to us through other people, revealed thoughts, dreams and visions, and situations and circumstances.

(2 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:12; John 14:26; Acts 2:17, Acts 16:9)

### Man

God created man for fellowship with Himself. Man was created as a trichotomy made up of body, soul, and spirit. Refer to *Man - Body, Soul & Spirit* sheet in the back of the book. God's plan was for man to live in fellowship with Him, eternally. The fall of man came through the temptation of Satan in the Garden of Eden. Part of man's punishment was death of the body. Because of sin, man was separated from God. However, through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, and each person's belief in Him, man is reconciled to God. Man will again live eternally.

(Genesis 1:26-27; 1 John 1:3; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Genesis 2: Romans 5:19; John 3:16)

### Angels

Angels are beings created by God, before man was created. They are spiritual beings that can take on other forms, such as glowing as white as lightening, or the form of a man. They will never die, and they do not marry. The Bible tells us that they are innumerable. They are to serve God and man as guardians, messengers, ministering spirits, and warriors. In the future, man will judge the angels.

(Ephesians 3:9, Colossians 1:16, Revelations 4:11, Revelations 5:13, Revelations 10:6; Matthew 28:2-3; Luke 20:36, Matthew 22:3, Mark 12:25; Hebrews 12:22; Psalms 34:7; Acts 8:26; Hebrews 1:14; 1 Chronicles 21:16a; Daniel 10:12-14; 1 Corinthians 6:3)

### Satan

Satan was an angel created by God. He had the seal of perfection on him. He was the anointed cherub that covered God. He was perfect in beauty. Sin was found in him when he desired to be like God. Satan was cast down to earth out of heaven. Jesus called him the *father of lies*, because there is no truth in Him. His purpose, as told by Jesus about the thief, is to steal, kill, and destroy. He can change his appearance to look like an angel of light, however, he can only be in one place at a time. Satan instigated the fall of man through temptation. Jesus defeated him through the resurrection from the dead. Satan will find his eternal death in the lake of fire.

(Ezekiel 28:11-19, Isaiah 14:9-15; John 8:44; John 10:10; 2 Corinthians 11:14; Revelation 12:4b-5, 10-11; John 16:33; Genesis 3:1-5; Colossians 2:13-15; Revelation 20:7-10; Matthew 25:41)

### **Demons**

Demons are formerly God's angels that chose to follow Satan when he was cast out of heaven. One third of God's angels followed Satan. They continue to follow his (Satan's) orders to bring about the destruction of man. They can oppress or possess men and women. They will find their eternal death in the lake of fire. (Revelation 12:3-4; Ephesians 6:12; Matthew 12:43-45; Matthew 25:41)

### **Hell**

Hell is a literal place. Jesus gave it many names, some of which are lake of fire or eternal fire. God did not create hell for man, but for Satan and his demons. However, every person that does not receive Jesus as their personal Savior will be thrown into the lake of fire with Satan and his demons for all of eternity. (Matthew 13 41-43; Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 20:15)

## Regional Church Foundations Part Two - The Child of God

### Becoming A Child of God

The Bible tells us that all of mankind has sinned. Because of sin, mankind is separated from God for all of eternity. In order for sin to be taken away, allowing mankind to have a personal relationship with God, a perfect sacrifice must be made.

This sacrifice would have to be the giving of a sinless life. God intervened for man, who was unable to find a perfect sacrifice, and sent His only son, Jesus, to earth. He was born of a virgin, with His Father being God. Jesus was sinless and became the perfect sacrifice for all sin, when He died on the cross. On the third day, after His death, God raised Him from the dead. God did all of this because He loved man so much, and wanted to have an eternal personal relationship with him.

How can people be a part of this covenant with God? First, you need to realize that you are a sinner, your sin separates you from God for all of eternity, and you have a need of a Savior. Next, God requires you to believe in your *heart* that Jesus is the Son of God, that He came to earth, died, and rose to life on the third day. Finally, you must confess that Jesus is Lord. When you do this, you have been “born again”, that is, born into God’s family by the Holy Spirit. You will then be a Child of God. This belief requires faith on your part. However, even the faith that you use to believe, was given to you by God.

(Romans 3:23; John 3:16; Romans 10: 9&10; John 3:3-8; Romans 12:3; 1 John 5:1a)

We must understand that becoming a Child of God is a result of believing in your heart and confessing with your mouth, and that alone. To put anything else with it (baptism, discipleship, or confession of sins) makes it a work on our part, that is, something we do to *receive* and *keep* our status and benefits as a Child of God. If we put anything with belief in Jesus to become a Child of God, then all of these things have to be maintained to continue being a Child of God. The Word of God never links these things together as qualifications. In fact, it is just the opposite. We have been saved and placed in God’s family by His grace, and through faith given to us as a *gift* from God. We simply make the choice to believe with our hearts, and confess that belief with our mouths.

(Ephesians 2:8)

### Once a Child of God... Always

Once you are a Child of God, you are always a Child of God, not because of what you do, but because God has entered into a covenant with you.

In this covenant Jesus Christ is the High Priest that has already given the sacrifice that was needed to “put away sin”. It is an established fact, not because of what anyone has done, but because of the shed blood of Jesus and the will of our Heavenly Father. If you believe in your heart that Jesus is the Son of God and that God raised Him from the dead, you are a Child of God, and you are the recipient of the God’s covenant. God keeps His covenant with man. Praise God! You live under the covenant and the blood of Jesus has covered all of your sins. You cannot lose being a Child of God because of sin in your life. You are secure in God’s covenant!  
(Hebrews 9:15; Hebrews 9:26b; John 10:27-30)

The believer will never perish, because you were “born” of the Spirit with an imperishable seed. Believers are in the hand of Jesus and God, and no one is able to “snatch” them out of their hands.  
(1 Peter 1:23; John 10:28)

### **Benefits of a Child of God**

When you become a Child of God, immediately many things take place that will not change. These become the benefits, or inheritance, for every Child of God. These truths, revealed in the Word, are what God has already done for every one of His children. This inheritance is available to every believer, because of the finished work of the cross. Jesus died once, and He died for all. When you believe in Jesus with your heart, God applies all of the following truths to your life.  
(Romans 8:17; Ephesians 1:10-14)

#### **1. Forgiven**

Because of the blood of Jesus, and the work of the cross, all (past, present, & future) of our sins are forgiven.  
(Colossians 2:13-14)

#### **2. Redeemed**

You have been redeemed from being separated from God for all of eternity, by the blood of Jesus.  
(1 Peter 1:18-19)

#### **3. Justified**

This means to render (show or regard) just or innocent; to be free, or righteous. That is what the blood of Jesus has done for you.  
(Romans 5:9)

#### **4. Glorified**

We have already been glorified.  
(Romans 8:30; John 17:22)

## **5. Righteous**

Because of Jesus' willingness to become sin on the cross, we are now the righteousness of God, in Christ.

(2 Corinthians 5:21)

## **6. The Old Self is Dead**

When Jesus died on the cross, the Bible tells us that our old self was crucified with Him. That means our old sin nature has been put to death!

(Romans 6:6)

## **7. In God and Jesus**

Immediately, when you believe, you are placed in Christ, and He is in God.

(Colossians 3:3; John 17:20-21)

## **8. Seated in Heavenly Places**

When Christ Jesus rose from the dead, God brought us with Him and seated us with Jesus, in Heavenly Places. Even though we live in physical form here on earth, we are also seated in the heavens with Jesus.

(Ephesians 3:5-6)

## **9. Baptism with and in the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is God's promise and gift to every Child of God. When you become a Child of God, He baptizes you in and with the Holy Spirit. You have been baptized into the Body of Christ by the Holy Spirit, and He has been placed in you (made to drink) by God. Baptism of (with) the Holy Spirit takes place at the moment you become a Child of God, and is not an additional event in the Child's life.

(Acts 2:32 & 33; 38 & 39; 1 Corinthians 12:13)

## **10. Sealed by the Holy Spirit**

Not only is the Holy Spirit a completed promise from God, but He seals you in Christ and in God.

(Ephesians 1:13)

## **11. Anointed**

Every Child of God is anointed by God at the moment they believe, because the anointing is the Holy Spirit. The Word teaches that God handed Jesus the Holy Spirit and Jesus poured Him out on earth on the day of Pentecost. It further promises that every believer, at the moment of believing, will receive the promised Holy Spirit. We have been anointed by Jesus, the Holy One, when He poured out the Holy Spirit, and the anointing teaches us, just as Jesus said that He would.

(2 Corinthians 1:21; 1 John 2:20; 27; John 14:26)



## **12. Nine Spirituals (Gifts)**

When you receive the Holy Spirit at new birth, He brings with Him 9 powerful Spirituals, that some people call gifts. These Spirituals are divinely powerful and are manifested by the Holy Spirit, as the Child of God has need.  
(1 Corinthians 12: 1, 7-10)

## **13. Eternal Life (Salvation)**

God gives eternal life to everyone that believes in Jesus.  
(John 3:16; Romans 8:11; Romans 10:9-10;13)

## **14. Called by God**

God has a wonderful plan for every one of His Children, that is uniquely different for each one, yet all are called.  
(Ephesians 4:4)

## **15. The Plan of God**

God has a plan written for you!  
(Psalm 139:16)

## **16. The Priesthood of the Child of God**

The High Priest was the only one that could enter into the Holy of Holies, where God's Spirit dwelled. However, because of the shed blood of Jesus, He is our High Priest and He makes us priests as well. The writer of Hebrews tells us that He makes it possible for us to enter into the Holy of Holies with confidence.  
(Hebrews 10:19-22; 1 Peter 2:5; Revelation 1:6)

## **17. Member of Christ's Body**

God has a special place for each one of His children in the Body of Christ, the Church.  
(1 Corinthians 12:18)

## **18. Complete**

Because you are in Christ, you are complete and have been given everything you need to live this life on earth, and for all of eternity.  
(Colossians 2:10)

## **19. New Creation in Jesus**

God makes us a new creation. As far as God is concerned, the old is passed away.  
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

## **20. New Self**

God gives us a new self. We have the choice to put on that new self.  
(Ephesians 4:24)

### **21. The Mind of Christ**

Every Child of God is given the blessing of having the mind of Christ. Along with the Holy Spirit, this enables the Believer to hear from God and discern the will of God for his or her life.

(1 Corinthians 2:16)

### **22. Authority over the Enemy**

God is in a war with a very real enemy, Satan and his demons. While His children remain on earth, God has given them authority over all of the enemy.

(Ephesians 1:20-23)

### **23. The Armor of God**

Every soldier needs armor. The Child of God is in a war in the spirit realm, against a spirit enemy, and God has given each of His children powerful, spiritual armor.

(Ephesians 6:13-17)

### **24. Weapons of Warfare**

Along with the Armor of God, He has equipped every Believer with Weapons of Warfare. Again, these are spiritual weapons are divinely powerful for fighting an enemy in the spirit realm.

(2 Corinthians 10:4)

#### **Weapons of Warfare**

The Name of Jesus, Philippians 2:9-11

Binding & Loosing, Matthew 16:19

Confession, 1 John 1:6-9

Worship & Praise, John 4:23 & 24

*Lifting Hands* Psalm 134:1-3

*Bow or Kneel* Psalm 95:6

*Clap Your Hands* Psalm 47:1

*Sing* 1 Chronicles 16:23

*Sing a New Song* Psalm 96:1

*Shout* Psalm 66:1

*Dance* Psalm 149:3

*Play Instruments* 1 Chronicles 25:6

*Stand* Psalm 33:8

Agreeing Together, Matthew 18:19-20

Fasting, Matthew 6:16-18

The Spirituals (Gifts), 1 Corinthians 12:8-10

Laying on of Hands, Mark 8:23 & 25

Prayer & Commands, John 16:23-27  
Resisting the Enemy, James 4:7

**25. Protection of God**

God promises to be there to protect you.  
(Psalm 139:5)

**26. God's Angel Army**

There is a host of ministering spirit sent from God to all those that are born-again.  
(Hebrews 1:14)

**27. The Peace of God & Jesus**

Jesus promised to leave His peace with every Believer, and God promises to guard our hearts and minds with His peace.  
(John 14:27; Philippians 4:7)

**28. The Promises of God**

God has made many promises. Who do those promises belong to? If you are a Child of God, they belong to you! These promises began with Abraham, and continue through Christ Jesus, and through all of His offspring. That is all the children that are born into God's Kingdom through belief in His Son.  
(Galatians 3:16 & 29)

**29. The Love of God**

As a child of God, His love has been poured into your heart, and nothing can separate you from the love of God.  
(Romans 5:5; Romans 8:31-39)

**30. No Condemnation**

All that are in Christ Jesus are no longer condemned.  
(Romans 8:1)

**31. Intercession by the Holy Spirit & Jesus**

It is wonderful to know that the Holy Spirit and Jesus are always interceding for you.  
(Romans 8:26 & 34)

## Regional Church Foundations Part Three - The Holy Spirit

### The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

Jesus asked God to send the Holy Spirit, or Helper, to live inside every believer forever. When Jesus ascended to the Father, after His resurrection, He sat down at His right hand, God gave Him the Holy Spirit and Jesus poured Him out on all mankind. God did what Jesus asked for, on the day of Pentecost, and fulfilled the prophecy that was given by Joel. The Holy Spirit, placed in believers for the first time, is recorded in seven different events in the book of Acts. Peter told the people in the streets of Jerusalem, on the day of Pentecost, that the promised Holy Spirit is for all that believe in Jesus.

The ministry of the Holy Spirit on earth is three fold (1) to convict the lost of sin (2) to convict the Child of God concerning righteous living and (3) to convict the world of Judgment to come. He is the teacher for all believers, revealing Christ and God. He is our helper, comforter, and power source. He is the Spirit of God, thereby able to reveal to us the things of God. He intercedes for the Child of God when you don't know how to pray. Jesus also called Him the Spirit of Truth. Every Child of God receives the complete Holy Spirit at their spiritual birth into God's family, not just part. Therefore, children of God become the temple of the Holy Spirit.

(John 14:16-17; Acts 2:33; Acts 2:38-39; John 16:8; Luke 3:16; 1 Corinthians 2:11-12; 1 Corinthians 3:16; John 14:26)

### The Spirituals, or Gifts, of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit, God's gift to you, comes with 9 wonderful "gifts". The correct word for these "gifts" is Spirituals. Man, in order to give us better understanding, has added the word "gifts", calling them spiritual gifts, yet in the original Greek the word "gifts" does not appear in 1 Corinthians 12:1. The Greek word for Spirituals is *pneumatikos* (pnyoo-mat-ik-os'). The root Greek word that it comes from means "non-carnal", and is opposite of "demonic" or "a spirit". Here the meaning is (*divinely*) *supernatural*, which means that the nine spirituals from God and the Holy Spirit are exactly what it says, divinely supernatural! We need to understand that the nine Spirituals are gifts to you from the Holy Spirit and it is important to remember that they fall in a powerful category all their own. They are *Divinely Powerful Spirituals!* All of the Spirituals exist and are active today.

(1 Corinthians 12:4, 7-11)

#### **1. Word of Wisdom**

A Word of Wisdom is given to show the power and wisdom from God. It is God's wisdom that at one time was hidden, but is now revealed through this Spiritual.

God's wisdom will give you direction. It usually works with a Word of Knowledge. (1 Corinthians 2:1-13)

## **2. Word of Knowledge**

A Word of Knowledge is a spiritual revelation of knowledge about the written Word, a person, or circumstance. When knowledge is given, through the Holy Spirit, usually a Word of Wisdom is given on how to act on the Word of Knowledge.

## **3. Faith**

The Gift of Faith is a supernatural outpouring of faith for a definite purpose. It is not to be confused with (1) *a measure of faith* that is given to all believers equally and can be built up, (2) *saving faith* to become a Child of God that is given to you by God, or (3) *the shield of faith* used to fight the enemy.

## **4. Gifts of Healing**

This gift is used for supernatural healing. It is used for healing in addition to (1) *the wounds on Jesus' back*, (2) *the prayer of faith*, (3) *the hand of God*, and (4) *the written Word of God*.

## **5. Effecting of Miracles**

This Spiritual is given for the purpose of miraculous works that take place instantly.

## **6. Prophecy**

A message from God given to a person in his spirit, spoken out to the church (individually or collectively), so that it is understood, thereby building up the church for the work of the Kingdom.

## **7. Distinguishing of Spirits**

The spirit realm is all around us. This Spiritual is given so that God's children can "see" into the spirit realm, discerning spirits, good and evil.

## **8. Kinds of Tongues**

This Spiritual is used in two ways; (1) A spirit prayer for the believer, and (2) a prophetic message to the church. This is a tongue that cannot be understood without the gift of Interpretation. Children of God are encouraged to pray in the Spirit at all times, however, if it is used in the congregation, it must be done in order and with interpretation.

## **9. Interpretation of Tongues**

This Spiritual is used with the Gift of Tongues. Children of God are encouraged to pray for Interpretation.

## **Filled with the Holy Spirit**

Experiencing God, and all of His power and Spirituals through the Holy Spirit, is dependent on the Child of God yielding to the Holy Spirit and allowing Him to fill you. This happens many times during the believer's life. Wherein you were baptized in the Holy Spirit once, you must now *continually* be filled with the same Spirit!  
(Ephesians 4:30; Ephesians 5:18b)

## Regional Church Foundations Part Four - The Church

### The Priesthood of the Child of God

In the Old Testament we have a record of how the High Priest was the only one that could enter into the Holy of Holies, a place in the Temple where the presence of God stayed. Through Jesus, and because of His shed blood, He is our High Priest and He has made us priests as well. The writer of Hebrews tells us that He makes it possible for us to enter into the Holy of Holies with confidence.

**Hebrews 10:19-22** *Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.*

**1 Peter 2:5** *you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

### Regional Church Membership

The Church is made up of Believers, worldwide, and is the living body of Jesus Christ on the earth. If you are a Believer, you are immediately a member. Furthermore, God has placed you in the Church, exactly where He wants you! Refer to *The Church Ministry Structure* sheet in the back of the book.

In addition, God gives a purpose and vision to all the individual “churches” around the world and that vision completes His plan to build the His Kingdom on earth, at any given time. He then calls people to become a part of the vision that He has given to a local body in their home area. It is important for Believers to find a fellowship they can call their “home”, grow in the Lord, and fellowship with other Believers.

At Regional Church, we encourage people to become active in our part of the Body, if they believe they are called to the vision God has given to Regional Church. However, we do not have formal membership. We encourage people to share with a minister, if they believe God is leading them to be a part.

Becoming a part of Regional Church means you are a born-again Child of God and have been baptized (immersed in water). We honoring all baptisms, regardless of where they took place.

### The Regional Church Governing Structure

Regional Church does not believe that the church is a democracy, but rather a theocracy, meaning that God governs the church. God has a perfect plan for the

church, the body of Jesus Christ. He has placed Jesus as the head and each member in the body where He wants them. Then He appoints people to ministries. Since God governs the church, through the Holy Spirit, it requires listening for instruction from Him and following by faith.

At Regional Church we do not vote, with the exception of the following three times in her historical beginning in 1995:

1. The first building, a worship tent.
2. The land that would become the home of Regional.
3. The decision concerning the Governing Structure for Regional Church.

Governing the church is placed in two categories:

1. **Business Governing Structure** – Taking care of the everyday financial and corporate business of Regional Church.
2. **Ministry Governing Structure** – Taking care of the everyday ministry of Regional Church.

### **Business Governing Structure**

Regional Church is a 501-C3 Religious Tax-Exempt Corporation and has a Board of Directors that handles all business and financial matters for the corporation. According to corporate law, the Board must include three people. This Board includes the Pastor/Apostle of Regional Church, as Chairman of the Board, and at least two other church members, as Board Members, at the discretion of the Pastor/Apostle. Regional Church does not hold business meetings. The General Ledger is open to anyone that the Board of Directors considers to be an active participant in the ministry of Regional Church. The church body is made aware of financial needs from Sunday to Sunday, as God leads.

In addition to the Board of Directors, the corporation has Officers that include at least, President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasure, and Board Members may also serve as Offices. There may be more Officers, if the Board of Directors feels it is necessary.

In addition to the Board of Directors and Officers, Regional Church has a Financial Council that consists of at least two people that do not serve on the Board or as Officers. This Council counts money each Sunday, filling out a Count Sheet, and receives a Monthly Financial Statement. This Statement also goes to the Board and Officers.

All corporate papers, that include corporate meeting minutes, financial reports, check book, bank statements, and the corporate seal are kept in the corporation office at 123 North Broadway, Broken Bow, OK.



## **Ministry Governing Structure**

### **The Appointed Ministries by God**

There are certain ministries in the Body of Christ, the Church, that are appointed by God. These ministries are in two categories, Leadership Ministries and Service Ministries.

Under Leadership Ministries Appointed by God you will find, Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor (Shepherd), and Teacher. The purpose of these five appointed ministries is to equip the Children of God for the work of service, thereby giving them the leadership role in the church. Apostle and/or Pastor are considered the Leader(s) of the church congregation. If it is a new work, God will appoint an Apostle to lead the congregation and he has the responsibility of hearing from God for the overall direction and leadership of the new church. If it is an established work, God may appoint a Pastor as the leader to shepherd the congregation.

Under Service Ministries Appointed by God there are eleven categories of service that God appoints people to serve through; Miracles, Gifts of Healing, Helps, Administration, Kinds of Tongues & Interpretation, Service, Teach, Exhort, Gives, Leads, Mercy. Though the church may not call these ministers by the same name (such as *Leads*), they will serve through that kind of ministry.

These appointed ministries are open to both genders and all races, and God will make His will known through the Holy Spirit, concerning leadership and service appointments, to the church leaders. Refer to *The Church Ministry Structure* sheet in the back of the book.

### **The Appointed Ministries by Man through the Leadership of the Holy Spirit**

There are certain ministries in the Body of Christ, the Church, that are appointed by man through the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Those ministries are in two categories, Leadership Ministries and Service Ministries.

In the early church Leadership Ministers Appointed by Man were Bishops, Elders, or Overseers. Today churches may or may not call these by the same name, however, through the direction of the Holy Spirit, God will direct His leaders to appoint Service Ministry Leadership for the church. These ministers will work closely with the Apostle and/or Pastor, and other Leadership Ministers, to fulfill the purpose of the local church.

In the early church Service Ministries Appointed by Man were deacons. Today God, through the Holy Spirit, will direct the church leadership for specific ministry needs, that may change throughout the years of each individual church according to

God's plan. Through this need, Service Ministries will be formed and God will direct those that have a heart to serve. Hence, the appointments to service ministries, such as deacons.

These appointed ministries are open to both genders and all races, and God will make His will known through the Holy Spirit, concerning leadership and service appointments, to the church leaders. Refer to *The Church Ministry Structure* sheet in the back of the book.

### **Baptism**

Jesus said to baptize (immerse in water) every believer in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as a witness that the person has been baptized or immersed and sealed in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Jesus was baptized in water. Water baptism is not necessary for salvation, however, it shows obedience on the part of the believer to follow Jesus. Baptism should take place as soon as you become a Child of God, and is only necessary once.

(Matthew 28:19; Matthew 3:5 & 6, 13)

### **The Lord's Supper**

Jesus instigated the Lord's Supper just before His death on the cross. He established it as a picture of the New Covenant between God and man, knowing that He would be the sacrifice for the new covenant. The broken bread represents His body that was given for us. The wine represents His blood that was shed to cover and take away all sin. Jesus told His believers to observe the Lord's Supper in remembrance of Him.

Any believer, who is present during the offering of the Lord's Supper, has the right as a Child of God to partake.

(Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:24-29)