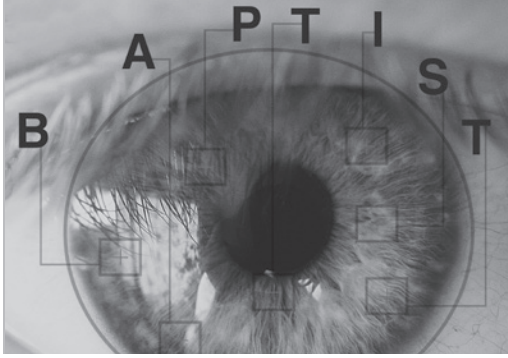


**QUARTER &  
SUBJECT****COURSE DESCRIPTION****BIBLE PASSAGES**

<b>Fall 2014</b> James	The book of James presents steps of spiritual growth; e.g., correct response to trials and temptations; how to practice tongue control; avoiding partiality.	James
<b>Winter 2014–15</b> Proverbs	Spiritual fitness comes through applying God's Word to daily situations, so the student will be challenged to apply Biblical principles to daily life.	Proverbs
<b>Spring 2015</b> Joshua	Principles from the book of Joshua can be applied to living a victorious Christian life; e.g., obey God's commands; move forward by faith; remember that sin always has a price.	Joshua
<b>Summer 2015</b> Current Issues	God's Word has answers to today's issues, such as war, homosexuality, postmodernism, substance abuse, the media, and suicide.	Selected passages throughout Scripture
<b>Fall 2015</b> The Bible	Beginning with inspiration, this course includes Bible study fundamentals and Bible study methods.	Selected passages throughout Scripture
<b>Winter 2015–16</b> Cults & False Religions	Recognizing that the Bible warns against false teachings and presents Jesus Christ as the only way to God, this course helps today's students understand the cults and false religions in our world today.	Selected passages throughout Scripture
<b>Spring 2016</b> Romans	The book of Romans teaches us how to be Right with God and how to have Right Thinking and Right Living.	Romans
<b>Summer 2016</b> Choices	We can learn from the choices made by Biblical characters such as Ruth, Jonathan, Ahab, Nehemiah, Judas, Peter, and others.	Selected passages throughout Scripture
<b>Fall 2016</b> Genesis	God's sovereignty and man's accountability are presented through the major events and characters of Genesis: creation, the Fall, the Flood, Babel, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.	Genesis
 <b>Winter 2016–17</b> Baptist Distinctives	The Biblical distinctives of eternal security, baptism, Communion, church polity, and the priesthood of believers are foundational Baptist beliefs.	Selected passages throughout Scripture
<b>Spring 2017</b> John	Jesus' Public Ministry, Jesus' Private Ministry, and Jesus' Passion Ministry are presented in this study of the book of John.	John
<b>Summer 2017</b> Exodus	Covering events from Israel's slavery in Egypt to worship in the tabernacle, this course deals with events and topics that have significance for today's teens.	Exodus
<b>Fall 2017</b> 1, 2 Timothy; Titus	The letters Paul wrote to Timothy and Titus provide instruction for young people today in the areas of Christian living, Christian service, and godly lifestyles.	1, 2 Timothy; Titus
<b>Winter 2017–18</b> Future Events	This study of "last things" gives an overview of Biblical prophecy and then looks in detail at events from the Rapture of the church to the Great White Throne Judgment.	Selected passages throughout Scripture
<b>Spring 2018</b> Philippians	Paul's letter helps believers realize that joy, an inward quality produced by the Holy Spirit, is expressed in a number of ways, including fellowship, the gospel, harmony, and contentment.	Philippians
<b>Summer 2018</b> Acts	This study on the book of Acts emphasizes evangelism and missions in the early church and challenges today's teens to reach their world for Christ.	Acts



# BAPTIST IDENTITY

## A BIBLICAL STUDY OF BAPTIST DISTINCTIVES

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### THE DOCTRINAL BASIS OF OUR CURRICULUM

A more detailed statement with references is available upon request.

- The verbal, plenary inspiration of the Scriptures
- Only one true God
- The Trinity of the Godhead
- The Holy Spirit and His ministry
- The personality of Satan
- The Genesis account of creation
- Original sin and the fall of man
- The virgin birth of Christ
- Salvation through faith in the shed blood of Christ
- The bodily resurrection and priesthood of Christ
- Grace and the new birth
- Justification by faith
- Sanctification of the believer
- The security of the believer
- The church
- The ordinances of the local church: baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper
- Biblical separation—ecclesiastical and personal
- Obedience to civil government
- The place of Israel
- The pretribulation rapture of the church
- The premillennial return of Christ
- The millennial reign of Christ
- Eternal glory in Heaven for the righteous
- Eternal torment in Hell for the wicked

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**RegularBaptistPress.org**  
Building Lives by the Book

# HOW TO TEACH *REAL FAITH* LESSONS

**T**hank you for choosing *Real Faith in Life* as your Sunday School curriculum for senior high youth. This material has been designed to help you, a senior high teacher, clearly present God's Word to your students. It will guide you in using active learning methods that allow your students to interact with God's Word for themselves. It offers application ideas that will encourage your students to be *doers* of God's Word, not merely hearers (James 1:22).

Take a few moments to become familiar with the layout of this teacher book and with the other *Real Faith* products: the student book, the resource CD, and the memory verse card pack. All of these products work together. Notice these icons in the teacher book; they will help you know when to use the other products.



Use the suggested item from the **resource CD**.



Refer to the **daily devotions** or the **in-class** page in the **student book**.



Quote (or read) the **memory verse** in class, or use the verse in some other way.



Use the **worksheet** (from the resource CD) as part of a learning activity.

As you look through your materials, you will notice that we have built this course and the individual lessons around a central theme. As you emphasize the theme (and even decorate your room with the theme in mind), we believe your students will have an effective learning experience.

## IN PREPARATION FOR TEACHING . . .

- read the Scripture focus passage(s) several times. Look up words or concepts that you cannot clearly explain. Use Bible study tools as necessary to help you understand the passage(s).

- do the daily devotions in the student book. You need to know what your students are studying each day.
- memorize the memory verse throughout the week. (Note the suggested activities in the student book.)
- look at the materials list early in the week; note the items you will need from the resource CD.
- choose the activity you will use to focus students' attention on the Bible lesson. Usually two or more activities are suggested. You will not have time to do everything; choose the one best suited for your class. (Remember, this part of the lesson should take only five to ten minutes.)
- work through the Bible study section. Notice the active learning methods. Decide how you will involve your students in the Bible passage. These thirty to forty minutes are the heart of the lesson. Plan them carefully. Make notes in the margins of your book. Strive for maximum participation.
- decide how to apply the Bible truths and bring the lesson to a close. If more than one application idea is suggested, use the one best suited for your class. Don't assume your students will "just get it." Plan these final ten minutes of the class time carefully.
- pray for yourself, your students, and your lesson. The Holy Spirit is your divine Helper. Without Him, you cannot do anything of eternal value (John 14:16, 17; 15:5; 16:13).

## ON SUNDAY MORNING . . .

- make sure you arrive in your classroom before the first student.
- look at your room. Is it attractive and inviting to students?
- commit yourself and your class to the Lord.
- teach with the confidence that God will work in your students' lives.

God has promised that His Word will not return to Him void; it will accomplish its intended purposes (Isa. 55:11). You can teach with confidence!

# NOTES FOR THIS QUARTER

**W**hat are Baptists? What makes them distinct from other religions and denominations? Many of your students have probably already been asked these questions by their peers. In a society moving toward ecumenicalism, being distinct is not looked upon with favor.

The Baptist distinctives are Biblical doctrines and practices that set apart Bible-believing churches. They are not important to study because they are what Baptists believe. They are important to study because the Bible says they are true. All Bible-believing churches—Baptist or otherwise—accept these truths as absolute and put them into practice.

While Biblical teachings such as the autonomy of the local church and the separation of church and state may seem obscure and irrelevant right now to your students, you have the opportunity this quarter to not only teach these Biblical truths, but also to teach your students what difference these truths can make in their personal lives.

The emphasis this quarter is on local church involvement. Every distinctive points to the need for the members of Christ's Body to be active in their local churches.

Make sure to explore the Helpful Resources folder on the resource CD for application ideas and decorating helps. Also in this folder you will find the resources for a quarter-long project that will stretch your students to get involved in ways they may never have thought about.

## SENIOR HIGH MATERIALS LIST

- Teacher's personal Bible
- Students' personal Bibles and extra Bibles for visitors or students who do not bring Bibles to class
- Whiteboard and colored markers or chalkboard and chalk
- Pens (assorted kinds) and pencils (well sharpened; with erasers)
- Felt-tip markers (various widths and assorted colors)
- Pads of self-stick notes (various colors; ruled and unruled)
- 3 x 5 cards
- Masking tape (or other adhesive for mounting items on the wall)
- Glue sticks
- Scissors for teacher's and students' use
- Poster-sized paper or butcher paper
- Construction paper; poster board

# LEADING A STUDENT TO CHRIST

**T**he highest privilege you have as a teacher is the opportunity to lead your students to Christ and help them strengthen their relationship with Him. Be prepared to talk to students about salvation or about other problems or decisions in their lives.

There is no set pattern for talking to someone about the Lord. In each situation, be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit in your own heart and mind and to the needs of the individual teen. Deal with a student separately, rather than in a group. Allow the teen to tell you in his own words what his need is. Don't put words in his mouth. This is his decision, not yours!

## EXPLAINING SALVATION

Stress the need for personal salvation, particularly if the student has grown up in the church. She may confuse her knowledge of Bible stories, her church-centered activities, her parents' salvation, or an external code of conduct with individual faith.

Thoughtfully rephrase the Christian clichés that your students may have heard so often or that may seem like a foreign language to some; e.g., ask Jesus into your heart; ask Jesus to be your Savior; have faith; trust in Jesus. Help the student understand that "trust" is having confidence that someone or something is always right; "Jesus died for me" means that I was condemned to die, but Jesus voluntarily took my place on the cross; "believe" means accepting/deciding that something is true and then acting on it. Don't let the personal nature of salvation become misunderstood through the use of trite phrases or pat answers.

## THE PLAN OF SALVATION

Keep these basic points in mind when dealing with someone about salvation.

- Everyone is a sinner. No one can live up to God's standard (Rom. 3:23).

- Sin's penalty is death (Rom. 6:23).
- God loves us and sent His Son to pay the penalty for our sin. Christ died as our substitute, in our place (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8).
- When a person places his confidence in Jesus and what He did as sufficient payment for sins, Christ becomes his Savior. His sins are forgiven, and he receives God's gift of everlasting life (John 1:12; 5:24).
- Everlasting life begins immediately and is not temporary. (Use any verse where the word "eternal" or "everlasting" is used, such as in John 3:16.) Nothing we can ever do will take us out of God's hand; we are secure (John 10:27–29).
- The Christian should tell others of his decision (Rom. 10:9, 10).
- The experience of the new birth (being born into God's family) is not based on a feeling, but on confidence in God's Word (1 John 5:11, 12).

Encourage the student to pray, no matter how hesitantly. Prayer does not save a person, but it is the means of expressing to God what is in the heart.

Ask the new believer to explain to you what he has done and what has happened in his life.

## DISCIPLESHIP

Encourage the new convert to read the Bible, and explain the importance of prayer. Help him understand how to pray. Point out 1 John 1:9 as God's instruction for dealing with sin in the Christian life.

Make it a priority to follow up with the new Christian. Visit in his home; encourage him to attend Sunday School and church regularly; help him with Bible study and prayer; guide him in his new life as a Christian.

# LESSON 1

# IMPORTANCE OF IDENTITY

## SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Acts 2:1–47

## MEMORY VERSE

“And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:42).

## TOPIC

Original model of a Bible-believing church

## THEME

All believers should be active members in a Bible-believing church.

## DESIRED STUDENT RESPONSE

Each student will determine ways he or she can contribute to the growth of his or her Bible-believing church.

## MATERIALS

(in addition to supplies listed on page 3)

- *Real Faith in Life* student books, lesson 1 devotions (pp. 1–6)
- Calculators (optional)
- Candy (optional)
- Basket (optional)
- 3 shoe boxes
- Play-Doh or modeling clay
- Miscellaneous “building supplies” (see p. 8)
- Copy of History Highlights from the resource CD, cut into sections
- Baptist Identity statement for lesson 1 from the resource CD

### NOTES TO THE TEACHER

What must it have been like to have been a believer on the Day of Pentecost? Can you imagine the excitement—and confusion—of the advent of the Holy Spirit? And what would you have thought and felt as thousands of people called out to the Lord for salvation? What an explosive entrance Christ’s church made on the scene of Jerusalem!

How does that compare with the worship service last Sunday morning? True, we don’t have the Holy Spirit working supernatural signs and wonders in our midst. We don’t see thousands, or even hundreds, of people saved at one time. But the local church should still be a precious, vibrant place where believers gather to recharge and charge on.

The purpose of this groundwork lesson is to help students enter the Biblical world for a short time and experience the energy and excitement of the church at its birth. Then they will be “transported” to the future and challenged to consider what they can do today to infuse some of that momentum into their local church right now.

### OUTLINE

- I. Great Beginning (Matt. 16:18; Acts 1:8; Acts 2)
- II. Continuing in Doctrine (Acts 2:5–41)
  - A. Founded on doctrine
  - B. Instructed in doctrine
- III. Continuing in Fellowship (Acts 2:43–46)
- IV. Continuing in Ministry

### BEFORE CLASS

If you choose to use the Sweet Salvation introductory activity, buy approximately three thousand pieces of small candy (e.g., Skittles, M&Ms, sticks of gum) and put the candy in a see-through container. Situate the container in a visible spot and place beside it scraps of paper and a basket.

## **FOCUS THEIR ATTENTION (5–10 MINUTES)**

Choose the option better suited for your students.

### **THAT’S HOW MANY?!**

Write the number 3,000 on the board. Distribute scraps of paper or calculators and have students divide 3,000 by the approximate number of people in their grade at school. Ask students to share their resulting numbers. Then have students picture in their minds

all their classmates in one classroom at their schools. Tell them to imagine that number of students multiplied by the number they got from their division problem. Then have them imagine all those people making a decision to trust Christ as Savior at one time. Explain that this is exactly what happened on the Day of Pentecost and ask a volunteer to read Acts 2:1–7 and 41.

### **SWEET SALVATION**

Have the container of candy on display as students enter the room. Allow them to guess how many candies are in the container by writing their names and their guesses on scraps of paper and dropping them into the basket. When all students have guessed, tell them the actual number and announce the winner. Then have students figure out how long the candy would last if they each had ten pieces each week (e.g., for a class of ten students, 3,000 candies would last 30 weeks—well over half a year!). Ask a volunteer to read Acts 2:1–7 and 41 and explain that 3,000 is the approximate number of people who were saved on the Day of Pentecost.

If you have homeschoolers or students from very small schools, you could have them divide 3,000 by the average number of people in a Sunday morning service.

## **STUDY THE BIBLE (30–40 MINUTES)**

Divide your class into two groups and give each group one of the following assignments:

**GROUP 1 ASSIGNMENT:** Study Acts 2:1–14 and 40–47 and this week’s devotions. Use the materials provided to craft five items you would put in a time capsule to represent the events on the Day of Pentecost. Include with each item an explanation of why that item was included. Pretend that the people who will open this time capsule have no knowledge of the beginning of the church.

**GROUP 2 ASSIGNMENT:** Use the materials provided to craft five items you would include in a “reverse time capsule” that would be sent back to the believers in the early church. Include with each item an explanation of why that item was included.

Give each group five 3 x 5 cards, a shoe box, Play-Doh or modeling clay, and other miscellaneous “building supplies” (e.g., toothpicks, tinfoil, cotton balls, buttons). After ten minutes, have groups place their items in their “capsules.”



**I. Great Beginning (Matt. 16:18; Acts 1:8; Acts 2)**

Have a member from group 1 give its time capsule to the members of group 2. Allow the members of group 2 to open the capsule, display the items, and read aloud the explanations. Use the commentary and the following questions to discuss with students the beginning of the church:

- What were the highlights of the Day of Pentecost when the church was started?
- What words would describe the atmosphere and the events of this special day?

**Record students' responses on the board.**

The concept of the church is so common in this day and age, but this was not the case in Old Testament times and even when Christ ministered on earth. The church was a unique organization that God developed after Jesus ascended into Heaven.

Jesus introduced the concept of the church during His earthly ministry. After Peter's confession of Jesus as the Messiah, Jesus proclaimed, "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18). He did not begin building His church right then, though. Before the church could be established, Jesus had to die, rise again, and ascend to Heaven.

Before His ascension, Jesus explained many things concerning the kingdom of God (Acts 1:1–7). The disciples didn't understand all His teachings, but He explained that those things were under the authority of God the Father. But Jesus promised them that they would soon receive the Holy Spirit, Who would help them understand the things of God. Christ then told His followers that they would be His witnesses in "Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). After Christ's final words, His disciples and followers watched as He ascended into Heaven. As they were looking at the sky, amazed at all they had just witnessed, two angels appeared to them and told them that Jesus would one day return in the same manner as He departed. The followers returned to Jerusalem and spent their time in prayer as they waited for Christ's promises to be fulfilled.

On the Day of Pentecost God sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in the believers gathered in Jerusalem. This day marked the beginning of God's church. From that day the believers "continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (v. 42). The church continued to grow in numbers as "the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (v. 47).

**MEMORY VERSE:** Recite this week’s memory verse, Acts 2:42, together as a class. Refer to Friday’s devotions as you discuss with students the importance of the early church members’ activities.



## II. Continuing in Doctrine (Acts 2:5–41)

### A. Founded on doctrine

Teaching doctrinal truth was the core of the early church. At the inception of the church, the Holy Spirit came upon the believers in Jerusalem and caused them to speak in languages that they had never learned. Suddenly, each person gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate Pentecost could hear the believers speaking in his or her own language, though the multitude of people was assembled from “every nation under heaven” (Acts 2:5). This miraculous event caused a great stir—and much confusion—in Jerusalem.

The apostle Peter stood and addressed the crowd. He began by explaining the strange occurrences in the context of a prophecy of Joel. The bulk of his sermon to the massive crowd focused on Jesus Christ, however. Peter spoke boldly of Christ’s death, resurrection, and exaltation. He quoted from two psalms of David (Ps. 16; 110) and taught the multitude about David’s prophetic testimony of the deity of Christ. Many in the crowd responded to the deep truths Peter had presented, and approximately three thousand people were saved, baptized, and added to the church that day.

After Pentecost, Christianity spread quickly to the surrounding areas and eventually to western Asia and Europe. The apostles were the chief leaders in church planting. By definition, the apostles were men who had been taught directly by Christ. These men had heard, seen, and learned firsthand about the person and work of Christ. They taught what they had learned and experienced to the unbelievers they encountered, inviting these unbelievers to trust Christ as their personal Savior. In this way, the church was founded on the doctrine of Christ.

### B. Instructed in doctrine

As the new churches grew and became established, the apostles wrote letters to encourage and instruct them in their faith and practice. Several of these letters were included in the canon of Scripture. These letters brim with doctrinal teaching on such subjects as

- God (Rom. 11:33–36; Heb. 11:6)
- Christ (1 Cor. 15:1–8; Phil. 2:5–11; Heb. 4:14—5:10; Rev. 19:11–21)

**The apostle Paul was instrumental in planting many of the first churches. He wasn’t a follower of Christ during Christ’s earthly ministry, but he received direct revelation from Christ after his conversion (Gal. 1:11, 12).**

**This list is not intended to be a comprehensive treatment of all the doctrine presented in the New Testament.**

**Admonitions and exhortations concerning doctrine: Rom. 16:17; 2 Cor. 11:12–15; Gal. 2:4; Col. 2:4, 8, 18; 2 Thess. 3:6; 1 Tim. 1:3–7; 2 Tim. 1:13, 14; Titus 3:9–11; Heb. 2:1; 2 Pet. 2:1–3:2; 1 John 4:1; 2 John 7–11; Jude 3, 4, 17–23.**

- The Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:14–16, 26, 27; 1 Cor. 12:4–13; Gal. 5:22, 23)
- The Bible (2 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 4:12; 2 Pet. 1:20, 21)
- The Church (1 Cor. 12:12–31; Eph. 5:25–27; 1 Tim 3)
- Salvation (Rom. 3–5; Eph 1; 2; James 2:14–26; 1 Pet. 1:18, 19)
- Man and Sin (Rom 3; 5:12–14; James 4:14)
- Satan and Demons (Eph. 6:11, 12, 16; James 2:19; 1 Pet. 5:8; Rev. 20:7–10)
- The Resurrection (1 Cor. 15)
- End Times (1 Thess. 4:13–5:10; 2 Pet. 3:10–13; Rev. 4–22)

The writers of the letters that were included in the New Testament were also greatly concerned about deviation from doctrinal truth. Almost every letter contains an admonition against teachers of false doctrine or an exhortation to stand firm in the true doctrine the church members had been taught. The early churches depended on correct doctrine in order to separate themselves from the world and to be able to stand firm against the ritualistic Jewish culture and the immoral heathen culture of the day. Bible-believing churches today still seek to separate from the world and stand against conformity to an immoral and godless culture. It is critical for today's churches to center their existence on doctrine, just as the early church did.

### **III. Continuing in Fellowship (Acts 2:43–46)**

The early church in Jerusalem was a vibrant organism with a close fellowship. The church body was growing exponentially and exciting and unexpected signs and wonders were being performed by the apostles as the Holy Spirit worked through them. These signs and wonders—such as speaking in tongues, healing sicknesses, and prophesying—served to prove that God was behind the formation of the church (Acts 2:43). They were like a stamp of approval and authentication. The people of the early church were continually fellowshiping together. They sold their possessions, distributed the proceeds to the needy, and “had all things in common” (v. 44). They fellowshiped together with “gladness and singleness of heart” (v. 46).

### **IV. Continuing in Ministry**

The early churches were also very active in ministry. Acts 2:47 indicates that people were saved and added to the church every day. Believers witnessed and proclaimed Christ wherever they went. And “many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand” (4:4). The members of these churches were deeply concerned for the needy and often gave sacrificially to assist those less fortunate than they were (Acts 4:32–35; 2 Cor. 8:1–15; Phil. 4:15–18). The New Testament shows that the early church was active in prayer (Acts 12:12), in exhorta-

tion (Gal. 6:1, 2; Heb. 3:13; 10:24, 25), in worship (Col. 3:16), and in spreading the gospel (Acts 13:2, 3).

**Ask the members of group 2 to line up shoulder-to-shoulder at the front of the room. Give each group member a section of the History Highlights (found in the Helpful Resources folder on the resource CD). Have the first person in line hold group 2's time capsule while he or she reads his or her section. Then instruct that person to pass the capsule to the next person in line, who reads his or her section. Continue until the last person reads; then have that person deliver the capsule to the members of group 1.**

**Allow the members of group 1 to open the capsule, display the objects, and read the explanations. Then discuss the following questions:**

- **In what ways should a twenty-first century church be different from the early church?**
- **How should it be the same? (Refer to the words on the board.)**
- **Why is it not the same? Where's the problem?**
- **What can we do—as individuals or as a class—to change this problem?**

## **APPLY THE TRUTH**

**(10 MINUTES)**

### **FROM THIS DAY FORWARD**

Instruct students to choose one of the problem-solving ideas suggested by their classmates, or to come up with one of their own. Then refer students to the In-Class worksheet in their student books (p. 8). Have them date the worksheet several years from today and instruct them to write today's date on the blank in the letter. Encourage them to use their imaginations to conjecture what could happen in the coming years if they faithfully carried through on their problem-solving ideas. Have them fill in the rest of the letter as if they were going to include it in a time capsule. Then allow them to make an object to attach their letter to.



**Keep the shoe box to pull out at a later date, like the end of the quarter or a year from this Sunday.**



Ask students to share their objects and their letters with the class. Put the objects and letters into a shoe box. Close in prayer, asking God to help you and your students view your local church with the same passion and excitement that early believers had.

Post the lesson 1 Baptist identity statement on the bulletin board display: I know I recognize my Baptist Identity when I contribute to the growth of my Bible-believing church.

Direct students' attention to the lesson 2 devotions. Challenge students to come to class next week with an answer to the question, Why must a study of the Baptist distinctives begin with a study on the authority of the Bible? Encourage students to complete their devotions and bring their books to class next week.