

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS

» WHAT ARE THEY

A foundational truth refers to a core belief within the Christian faith. These beliefs are scripturally based and provide right understanding of God, His Word, His people and His mission. When you gain proper knowledge of these truths, your eyes are opened and it will transform the way you live. They are the most important, basic things kids need to know and believe about God, Jesus, and themselves. They aren't "extra" Bible facts, they're the essential building blocks for faith.

» WHY THEY MATTER

- Students are growing up in a world full of shifting ideas. Foundations help them know what's true no matter what.
- They make the Bible's big story clearer and easier to connect.
- They prepare students to grow into deeper faith as they get older.

» WHAT IS THE GOAL

Our goal is for each student to walk away knowing and understanding each truth so that they can own their faith. These statements are more than just facts about Christianity, but are personal truths that transform the way each of us live.

» BUILDING BLOCKS BASED ON AGE

Our Preschoolers are introduced to the Foundational Truths through short, simple statements paired with pictures. As they transition into Elementary, we build on these truths, incorporating memorization so that by the time they move from Chapel Kids to Chapel Students, they can confidently recite each one. **In Chapel Students, we go even deeper, guiding them to fully understand each Foundational Truth, see Jesus more clearly and apply these truths to their lives.**

» SOME PRACTICAL TIPS

- **Connect to real life.** Don't just say the truth; show why it matters. (e.g. Instead of just stating, "sin separates us from God", ask: What happens to our relationship with God when we make wrong choices? How can our relationship with God be fixed?)
- **Keep it simple.** Always bring conversations back to the Foundational Truth. (e.g., "The message today reminds us that God made all people in His image to have a relationship with Him", or "This helps us remember God's Word is our guide", or "How can we live out the foundational truth this week?") Varying how you say them keeps them "fresh" yet consistent.
- **Give space for discussion, not just lecture.** Foundational truths stick better when students process out loud and apply personally. Take time to pose open-ended questions and encourage peer conversations.
- **Live it out.** Students remember what you do as much as what you say. Modeling Foundational Truths is part of teaching them and encouraging them to do the same.
- **Anchor everything back to Jesus.** Students can get caught up in "issues" or "debates". Always bring discussions back to Jesus and the Gospel. That's the bedrock of all foundational truths.