

**LEADERSHIP LESSON #52: THIRTEEN ESSENTIAL NEW TESTAMENT
DOCTRINES FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS**

OUTLINE BY RICK ELLISON

GOD

There is one true God. He has existed forever and created the universe. He has always existed in three persons. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit. All three of them are equal and are the one true God.

JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is the son of God and is God. He was born of a virgin and lived a sinless human life. He came to earth and taught truths about the kingdom of God, performed miracles and died on the cross for our sins. He rose from the dead and is in heaven today. He will return to the earth again in the last days.

HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit convicts people of the need to trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. He lives in a person's life when they become a Christian. He indwells in the life of the believer so that we will live under God's control and be obedient to Him. The Holy Spirit helps us understand the truths of the Bible and give us strength and direction for living.

SALVATION

Salvation is God's free gift by grace, through faith because of Christ's death on the cross. No one can earn salvation through works. One must repent of their sins and receive God's forgiveness and trust him as personal Lord and Savior. A true believer can never lose their salvation. It's through God's power that we have eternal security.

BAPTISM

Baptism is an act of obedience for the person who has trusted Jesus as personal Lord and Savior. It is a testimony of what Christ has done for us in salvation. Baptism is practiced by immersion or submersion under the water as taught by the scriptures.

PEOPLE

People were created in God's image. People are the greatest work of His creation. God gave us free choice. The first humans brought sin and separation from God. Christ died to restore our relationship with Him. God loves us and has a purpose for our lives.

THE BIBLE

The Bible was written by human authors, divinely inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit. God inspired the scriptures and it is absolute truth without error. The Bible is our authority and guide for living.

EVANGELISM

Christ has commanded us to share the gospel with all people and to take the plan of salvation to all people.

PRIESTHOOD OF THE BELIEVER

Every believer has direct access to God through prayer and studying God's Word.

AUTONOMY OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

Each church should be self-governing under the leadership of Christ. Each church has the responsibility to live according to the teaching of scripture. Although each church is autonomous there is great value in churches working together.

STEWARDSHIP

God commands us to give financially to support His work. God commands that we give our tithes (10% of income) and our offerings beyond the tithe. God wants us to use our time, spiritual gifts and abilities in His Kingdom's work.

SPIRIT FILLED LIFE

Christians must confess sins daily and seek God's power for living. Jesus told us that "without Him we can do nothing." (John 15:51) The Holy Spirit gives us guidance and to live a life that pleases God.

HEAVEN

A literal Heaven and Hell exists. Both are eternal. God provides for Christians a place call Heaven to spend eternity with Him.

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