

Welcome to Family Worship Day! Welcome BC Kids! God is all about family and He has given us instructions in His word that lead us and guide us as individuals and as families.

Let's call these instructions our Blueprints for Life. Ten Great Bible Doctrines found in God's Word.

So far we've looked at 1) The Doctrine of the Bible. 2) The Doctrine of God. 3) The Doctrine of Christ. 4) The Doctrine of The Holy Spirit. Today will look at 5) The Doctrine of Man. Then our summer Bible Study will continue with 6) The Doctrine of Sin. 7) The Doctrine of Salvation. 8) The Doctrine of Angels. 9) The Doctrine of the Church, and 10) The Doctrine of Future Things. For familiarity and consistency's sake we are using Max Anders Major Subdivisions for each Doctrine found in his book “30 Days to Understand the Bible.”ⁱ

The Four Major Subdivisions of the Doctrine of Man Are:

Origin	Created by God in His image.
Nature	Man has a spiritual, as well as a physical, dimension.
Distinctiveness	Man has capacities that go beyond those of any animals and mark him as the pinnacle of God's creation.
Destiny	Man will live forever in heaven or hell.

The Origin of Man: Created by God in His image.

God created us to be in a love relationship with Him, in fellowship and perfect harmony.

- We were created in God's image. **Genesis 1:27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.**

The image of God doesn't mean that we were created to look like Him. His image means that we share in many of his characteristics such as having a personality, the ability to reason, intellect, and a spiritual likeness of God.

- We are wonderfully made! **Psalms 139:14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. (BC Kids remember?)**
Psalms 139:14 (NLT) Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!
Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.

Nature: Man has a spiritual, as well as a physical, dimension.

- We are Spirit, Soul, and Body.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- Everyone here fully understands and has experienced that we are physical beings and eventually our bodies will give out and die. The process is set in motion the moment we are born.
- But we are also Spirit which has no physical limitations and will live forever. Our choice to receive Jesus as Savior or not will determine where we will spend eternity. (see Destiny)
- We also have a soul which is our mind, will, and emotions. The soul is one of the things that makes us distinctive from other animals.
- After salvation, our souls begin a transformation process.

At salvation, our SPIRIT MAN is 100% saved, but our SOUL, which is our mind, will, and emotions, must be transformed into the image of Christ.

2 Corinthians 3:18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. Notice the wording “are being transformed.” This process begins at salvation.

The big Biblical word for this is ***“Sanctification.”***

Our Spirit is now saying to our Soul, *“Soul, get things lined up in accordance with the truth in the Word of God. Change your thinking. Be transformed.”*

Your soul, mind, will, and emotions are not totally correct yet, but the process has begun.

We all may be transforming at different rates, but all of us are on this transformation path to become more like Christ Jesus.

- Don't be so judgmental of others but rather focus on your own transformation process.
- **ILL:** 68 Camaro – purchased and saved from the crusher. The car will never go back to the junk yard again, it was saved. But now the body shop has to begin the transformation! It's a process, it takes time, it doesn't happen overnight.

- We have a responsibility in this transformation process.

Colossians 3:8-17 But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices **10** and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. **13** Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Next Step – Concerning my transformation process, I will choose to work with Jesus rather than work against Him.

Distinctiveness: Man has capacities that go beyond those of any animals and mark him as the pinnacle of God's creation.

- We all have an intellectual mind. We can reason and think.
- We all have a will. We can make choices.
- We all have emotions which allow us to feel, hurt, and experience joy.

These characteristics are also characteristics of God which He allows us to share in, as He has made us in His image.

Genesis 1:26-28 Then God said, **“Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”**

27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, **“Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.**

What makes mankind different from the other animals that we are to have dominion over?

- We possess intellect (mind), will and emotion. Created in the image of God.
- We share some characteristics with other animals, but our characteristics far exceed theirs.

“In addition, man has the capacity for self-awareness, an awareness of God, an awareness of afterlife, and the ability to envision life in the future under different scenarios such as heaven and hell, etc.”
Max Andersⁱⁱ

Destiny: Man will live forever in heaven or hell.

Hebrews 9:27 Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,

- The Last Judgement.

Matthew 25:31-34 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

34 “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

Matthew 25:41 “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Matthew 25:46 “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

- My destiny and your destiny are not determined at The Last Judgement. That is a reading of the verdict and sentencing.
- Our destiny is determined while we are still here on this earth.
 - We are born condemned already.
John 3:17-18 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.
 - Choosing to receive Jesus as our one and only Savior brings us new life, and life eternal.
John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Next Step – Today I choose my eternal destiny by receiving Jesus as my Savior from sin, and my source of everlasting life.

ⁱ Max Anders. “30 Days To Understanding The Bible” (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2011), p.238-241.

ⁱⁱ Max Anders. “30 Days To Understanding The Bible” (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2011), p.240.