Foundational Faith.

Our mission is to raise up sons and daughters of God by teaching the Gospel of Grace, bringing people to spiritual maturity, and providing a culture of true worship and family.

Foundational Faith. It's what we build our lives on. It shapes, really creates, our worldview. It's this part that we need to get right, or nothing else works.

Matthew 7:24-27 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶ "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

1 Corinthians 3:9-11 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, *you are* God's building. ¹⁰ According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. ¹¹ For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

So when we talk about this foundation that we build our lives on, what exactly do we mean?

- I believe there are 3 main things to consider when we think of our foundation as Jesus Christ:
 - 1. The Gospel of Grace
 - 2. Our position as Sons and Daughters of God
 - 3. Our identity in Christ

The Gospel of Grace

- There are 2 parts to this: Gospel and Grace
- Gospel means "good news." Therefore if it's not good news, it's not the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- In a nutshell, the Gospel is simply the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But for this to be good news, we must look at how those events impact us today.
- Jesus' death was to deal with our sins. He traded our death for His death.
 - Romans 3:23-26 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.
 - by His blood, through faith is the key here. So essentially we sinned,
 Christ justifies us by His death, so that if we simply believe in Him,
 have faith in Him, then we are completely forgiven of all sin.
 - 2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
- Jesus's Burial deals with our sin nature. Our old man.
 - 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
 - Colossians 3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
 - Romans 6:4-7 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness* of *His* resurrection, ⁶ knowing this,

that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. ⁷ For he who has died has been freed from sin.

- By being a part of Jesus' death, and actually dying, we are separated from sin and now have the actual ability to live righteously.
- The Resurrection of Jesus also brings us life.
 - Romans 6:5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,
 - **Ephesians 2:1** And you *He made alive,* who were dead in trespasses and sins,
 - Ephesians 2:5-6 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
 - Being resurrected with Christ makes us united with Him. It is now His life, in union with us empowering us to live this Christian life.

And then there is Grace

- Grace simply means that you did not earn it. It is freely given by God.
 - **Ephesians 2:8** For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God,
- But not only our salvation, but everything is by grace. It is from God. Him doing the work. Us receiving and resting in that work.
 - 2 Peter 1:1-4 Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: ² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of

the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

Our Position as Sons and Daughter of God

- Romans 8:14-17 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.
- Actually, read all of Romans 8.
- In this you will clearly see the entire meaning of life. Why were you created? Understanding this will bring fulfillment to your life. You were created to become a child of God. Your only role in that is to believe the Gospel and receive the love the Father has for you.
- This position means that you are:
 - \circ Loved
 - Provided for
 - \circ Protected
 - Mentored to maturity
 - Never abandoned
- **Romans 8:16-17**: The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together

Our Identity in Christ

This one is so big that even an overview feels daunting.

- Our identity determines how we live. We can only live according to who we believe we are.
- What we do, what we have done does not determine our identity.

- You do not determine your identity.
- Birth determines our identity. And we have been reborn!
- **2 Corinthians 5:17**: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
- Romans 6:6: We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin.
- You used to be a sinner, but you are not a sinner anymore.
- Now You are perfect.
- **Hebrews. 10:14**: For by that one offering he forever made <u>perfect</u> those who are being made holy.

We are a 3-part being, Body, Soul and Spirit. Our Spirit is who we really are. And our spirit is united with Christ, forever made perfect. And that is who we are.

This is the foundation that Reborn church is built on.

1 Corinthians 3:11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.