

## Imagine- spiritual health

### I. Introduction-

#### A. May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely-

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. 1 Thes 5:23

Sanctified= made holy

#### B. What is spiritual health?

Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Col 1:12

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Gal 2:20

God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Col 1:27

#### C. The celebration of our new life in Jesus with communion-

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 1 Cor 11:23

#### D. The warning is that communion is for the spiritually healthy-

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. 1 Cor 11:27

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Cor 1:18

Dominant Worldview Embraced by American Adults:

Biblical Worldview 6%

Secular Humanism 2%

Postmodernism 1%

Syncretism 88%

People who believe they are Christians 69%

Biblical Christianity in the general population 2%

Syncretism: the combination of different forms of belief or practice

67% of parents in 2022 claimed to be Christians, 3% had biblical worldview

### II. Evidence that we are spiritually healthy-

Jesus answered, "The most important is, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Mk 12:29

By this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. 1 Jn 2:5

**Love: (Noun and Verb):** agapaō/agape-unmerited and unconditional favor,

Noun- something God is and something that He does

And Godly love is something that Jesus puts in as He lives in us and does through us

#### A. Born again into the life of Christ-

Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Jn 3:16

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. Jn 3:16

#### B. God's offer of love and eternal life to the world-

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No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. Jn 3:3  
Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. Jn 12:31

## **C. The radical cross of Jesus shows both the love and the justice of God-**

1. The cost of our new life that was paid for by God-

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. I Pet 2:24

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. I Jn 4:9

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. II Cor 5:2

Propitiation; a expiatory victim, a means of appeasing or expiating

2. The cost of our new life-

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Gal 2:20

He said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? Lk 9:23

## **D. The day to day sustaining power of love through the cross-**

Do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? Rom 2:4

You, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. Col 2:13

If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. I Pet 1:17

Repentance; a change of mind, or direction in life

Repent; to heartily change one's mind for better, with abhorrence of one's past or present sins

Abhorrence; something regarded as repugnant or disgusting

## **IV. Application and summary-**

### **The good news that Jesus invited us to do**

#### **A. Communion for those who are spiritually healthy-**

#### **B. The warning on taking communion in an unworthy manner-**

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. I Cor 11:27

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. I Cor 1:18

1. A biblical Christian who knows God is calling for repentance in an area-

2. A person who believes they are a Christian and has little or no evidence-

3. A person who know they do not believe God loves them and has sent His Son to pay for their sins-

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne. Rev 3:20

Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." Lk 5:31

4. For those who has no interest in the message of Jesus-

This is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God. Jn 3:19

Website

<https://crossroads-ridgecrest.org/>

Resources

Brochures and guides

Am I heaven ready?

Evidence for faith

Evidence of our faith

Maturity Checklist

Facts of life s

Daily heart check

Parenting tools

Maturity Checklist

Assigning responsibilities and privileges

Dating and friendship guide