

Opening Discussion Questions

- Why are you a Christian?
- Why are you a Lutheran Christian?
- What does it matter?

Topics covered in Foundations 1 (of 2: Foundations 2 January – February)

- The Holy Scriptures
- Knowledge of God
- Attributes of God
- The Holy Trinity
- The Doctrine of Creation
- On Humanity and Human Nature
- The Nature of Sin
- Salvation by Grace

From/using Edward WA Koehler's A Summary of Christian Doctrine as a primary source.

Theology:

The study of God

I am a \_\_\_\_\_.

Types of theology

- Biblical theology
- Systematic theology
- Practical theology
- Historical theology

Systematics/Systematic theology: a form of theology in which the aim is to arrange religious truths in a self-consistent whole; (topical/doctrinal)

Systematic theology: doctrine

Today's topic: Scripture—the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of our faith

For small group discussion:

- Is the Bible clear? It is easy to understand? Is God's Word confusing?
- If there is one Bible, why are there so many different denominations?
- If there is one Bible, why do we have separate men's and women's Bible studies?
- Why do churches agree about some things but disagree on other points? Does that have eternal significance?
- How do you know which interpretation of a Bible verse is the correct understanding of God's instruction?

"The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid." -Martin Luther



1 Cor. 2:9-11  
John 8:31-32  
2 Cor. 10:5  
Deuteronomy 4:2  
Rev. 22:18-19

Lutheran paradoxes:

\_\_\_\_\_ author/\_\_\_\_\_ authors (writers)

2 Tim. 3:14-17  
2 Peter 1:20-21

One \_\_\_\_\_/ many \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_/ the \_\_\_\_\_ made flesh

Come, Thou incarnate Word, Gird on Thy might sword; Our prayer attend.  
Come and Thy people bless, and give Thy Word success, and let Thy righteousness on us  
descend. Amen. Come, Thou Almighty King, LB 905 Stanza 2