

- I. The process of reunification (with God and with one another)
 - A. The reality of sin and separation (Genesis 3:8-13; 11:1-9; Isaiah 59:1-2)
Sin is what I do (Romans 1:28-32; Galatians 5:19-21; James 4:17)
Sinner is who I am (Luke 18:13; Romans 7:14-25; 1 John 1:8-10)
Sinner is who you are as well; sin is universal (Rom. 3:22-24)
 - B. The intercession of Christ with God on my behalf
Sacrifice (a religious term. Ephesians 5:1-2. Hebrews 10:1-18)
Redemption (an economic term. Colossians 1:13-14; Titus 2:14)
Salvation (a medical term. Mark 5:24. Acts 4:12. Romans 1:16)
Reconciliation (a sociological term. 2 Corinthians 5:19; Colossians 1:19-23)
Effected by Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection (Acts 2:14-36)
Continues today (Romans 8:31-39; Hebrews 7:23-25, 8:1-6)
 - C. My response to Christ’s intercession with God
Faith (John 3:16-17; Acts 16:30-31; Romans 5:1; Hebrews 11:6; James 2:18-26))
Repentance (Acts 2:37-38; 17:24; 2 Corinthians 7:9-10)
Confession (Acts 8:37; Romans 10:9-10)
Baptism (Acts 2:41; 10:44-48; Romans 6:1-4; Galatians 3:27)
- II. Our new life in Christ
 - A. We are the Body of Christ (physical metaphor)
Individual members, with individual functions (Romans 12:3-8)
One collective, unified Body (1 Corinthians 12:4-27)
Of which Christ is the head (Colossians 2:9-19; Ephesians 1:20-23)
 - B. We are the Family of God (social metaphor)
We are “brothers” and “sisters” (Matthew 12:46-50; 1 Timothy 5:1-2;
Christ is our “older brother” (Romans 8:29)
Older, stronger siblings care for younger, weaker siblings (Romans 14:1-23; 15:1-6)
Family squabbles are to be expected, and resolved (Matthew 5:21-24; 18:15-20)
 - C. We are the Church (*ekklesia*) of Jesus Christ (political metaphor)
The Church is an open-membership organization (Galatians 3:26-29; Col. 3:11)
All citizens have equal status (Ephesians 2:11-20; Philippians 3:17-21)
Need for order, organization (1 Timothy 3:1-13; 5:3-22)
Scripture is the organization’s ‘operations manual’ (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
We look forward to the coming of the eternal, heavenly kingdom, of which we are
citizens even now (Philippians 3:29-4:1; Revelation 21:1 – 22:6)

*In matters of faith, unity.
In matters of opinion, liberty.
In all things, charity.*