

MYTH OR FAITH

- Myth 1-1** God is Impersonal, a remote being, 'way out there.'
- Myth 1-2** God expects me to change before I am acceptable to Him.
- Myth 1-3** We must cooperate with God for our salvation because Scripture says everyone is to 'work out your salvation with fear and trembling.'
- Myth 1-4** If I change my life, then God will forgive me.
- Myth 1-5** There is a limit to God's forgiveness.
- Myth 2-1** Sin, by definition, is the way we break God's Commandments.
- Myth 2-2** People are not born sinful. They become sinful through the influence of the world, the devil, and their own sinful choices.
- Myth 2-3** Lutherans place too much emphasis on sin.
- Myth 2-4** God more often seems to be a God of wrath than a God of love.
- Myth 2-5** Repentance means being sorry you got caught.
- Myth 3-1** The doctrine of the Trinity has been created by human beings. Belief in a trinity, however, is unthinkable.
- Myth 3-2** Science has proven that the world came into being through evolution.
- Myth 3-3** God the Father often takes away from us more than He gives us.
- Myth 3-4** Since the Bible calls God "Father", all human beings are His children.
- Myth 3-5** Stories of angels are sweet fairy tales for children; a belief in devils is an outdated part of primitive folklore. Neither angels nor devils are real.
- Myth 4-1** Believing in Christ is the best way to attain eternal life.
- Myth 4-2** Believing that Christ is the only way to heaven is a narrow point of view.
- Myth 4-3** Christ was really more God than Man, more divine than human.
- Myth 4-4** Jesus is our helper and guide through life, an example to demonstrate for us what the Christian life is like.
- Myth 4-5** Jesus descended into hell to take the eternal punishment we deserved.
- Myth 5-1** The Holy Spirit is a kind of cosmic force or a universal wisdom that fills people.
- Myth 5-2** God does not force anyone to come to faith. He gives each of us the choice to resist him.
- Myth 5-3** We cooperate with the Holy Spirit in our conversion.
- Myth 5-4** Pentecost was the birthday of the Church.
- Myth 5-5** Our love for God is the motive for all we do in our Christian life.
- Myth 6-1** The church is a human institution, put together by human beings.
- Myth 6-2** Members of the holy Christian church are all those who mentally assent to specific, key doctrines of the church.
- Myth 6-3** The church should stress fellowship more, not just doctrines.
- Myth 6-4** We should go to church to get something out of it.
- Myth 6-5** We should give to the church because God needs our offerings.
- Myth 7-1** Death is a will of God.
- Myth 7-2** Death is a friend.
- Myth 7-3** At death, Christians become angels – members of God's heavenly host.
- Myth 7-4** Even Christians should be afraid of Judgement Day.
- Myth 7-5** Eternity begins when we die.

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- Myth 8-1** The Bible contains the Word of God.
- Myth 8-2** You can make the Bible prove anything, because its teachings are really just a matter of interpretation.
- Myth 8-3** The main point of the Bible is how to live a good life.
- Myth 8-4** The New Testament is of more importance to us today than the Old Testament.
- Myth 8-5** There are a lot of mistakes in the Bible.
- Myth 9-1** Baptism is only a symbolic act.
- Myth 9-2** By being baptized, I obey God's command and thereby earn His favor.
- Myth 9-3** Only those who understand the Christian faith should be baptized.
- Myth 9-4** Since I'm baptized, I'm saved.
- Myth 9-5** Unbaptized adults need not concern themselves about receiving Baptism, because a person can be saved just as well without Baptism.
- Myth 10-1** The Lord's Supper is a memorial meal that reminds Christians of Jesus' death for us and all people.
- Myth 10-2** Christians should come to the Lord's Supper only if they feel worthy.
- Myth 10-3** We should commune about 4 times a year. If we commune too often, the sacrament will become less meaningful for us.
- Myth 10-4** The Lord's Supper is invalid if the pastor who celebrates it has no true faith or is living an immoral life.
- Myth 10-5** One should be solemn when going to communion.
- Myth 11-1** Confession and absolution are optional practices for the Christian.
- Myth 11-2** My confession of sin makes God's forgiveness possible.
- Myth 11-3** To be sure of forgiveness, the Christian needs to confess specific sins to the pastor.
- Myth 11-4** If I examine myself carefully before Holy Communion, I don't need private confession.
- Myth 11-5** If a Christian feels no need for private confession, he or she can grow in faith just as well without it.
- Myth 12-1** A Christian can always depend on prayer.
- Myth 12-2** The Christian must have the wisdom and ability to pray properly.
- Myth 12-3** When we pray, we inform God about our troubles.
- Myth 12-4** After we pray, we should sit back and let God act in His own time.
- Myth 12-5** Prayer changes things.
- Myth 13-1** As long as I personally pray and read God's Word every day, it's not all that important that I worship God at church.
- Myth 13-2** As long as I worship God in church every Sunday, it's not all that important that I personally pray and study God's Word each day.
- Myth 13-3** The liturgy is a human invention, not of God.
- Myth 13-4** As long as we're speaking words from the Bible, our worship is bound to be Christian.
- Myth 13-5** If I 'don't get anything out of' liturgical worship, I should find another way to worship.
- Myth 13-6** The more concerned we are about worship, the less concerned we will be about evangelization and telling the Good News about Jesus to the unchurched.
- Myth 14-1** As we speak about Christ to the unconverted, the Scriptures are all we need to know.
- Myth 14-2** Christ's purpose for His people on earth is that we reach out to others to 'save souls'.
- Myth 14-3** The church building is here. We've done our job of evangelization. People just need to come and hear the Gospel.
- Myth 14-4** We should speak only about God's love to the unconverted. A message of repentance for sin will turn them off.
- Myth 14-5** Evangelization is the pastor's job and is best left to him and to the evangelism committee.

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