

DEFINITIONS

Baptize/Baptism	Rite of initiation into the Christian community. The word means to “dip,” or “immerse.”
Blasphemy	Insulting the honor or character of God.
Communion	One of the two ordinances of the church, also called the Lord’s supper. It is act of remembrance of the body and blood of Jesus, broken and shed for us.
Conversion	A turning to God. It is the act of becoming a Christian—includes the acts of repentance and faith.
Conviction	1. Convinced; 2. Sense of guilt and shame leading to repentance.
Deacon	From the Greek word “servant.” They serve in the church so that the elders can focus on the preaching the Bible and prayer.
Deity	Divinity; Godness; describing the essence of God.
Depravity	Describes the fact that sin permeates all of our being. It can include our inability to turn to God.
Discernment	The ability to recognize truth from error.
Efficacious	Effective.
Elder	The most common term used in the Bible to describe the pastors of a church.
Election	The concept that God has chosen his people before the foundation of the world.
Evangelism	The task of evangelizing, that is, telling others of the good news of Jesus Christ. From the Greek word for gospel (good news).

Exhortation	A strong encouragement to act or change one's mind.
Faith	1. Hope in things not seen; 2. Includes knowledge, assent, and trust in the person and substitutionary death of Jesus.
Fellowship	Sharing life together; friendship; having things in common.
General Revelation	Also called natural revelation, is God revealing himself to man through creation and conscience. (Rom 1:18–20; 2:14–15)
Glorification	Also called final sanctification. The final state of God's people where they receive new bodies that are free from all sin.
Glory	Honor, fame, majesty.
God's Decree	God's unchanging plan made from before the foundation of the world.
Gospel	Good news.
Grace	Unmerited and undeserved favor.
Holy	Set apart. Free from corruption or sin.
Immutability	Unchanging (non-mutating).
Incarnation	The event where the eternal Son of God entered the world as a human—putting on human flesh.
Indwelling	Describes the idea that the Spirit lives (dwells) inside the believer.
Inspiration	A process by which God, as the instigator, moved men by the Holy Spirit to write the words of God.

Intercession	Praying on behalf of another.
Just	To be right, fair, or morally upright. E.g., a just judge.
Justification	The legal declaration where God declares a sinner not guilty, but rather righteous, meeting the full requirements of God. It involves, pardon, forgiveness, and the merit of Christ credited to our account.
Lord's Supper	One of the two ordinances of the church, also called communion. It is act of remembrance of the body and blood of Jesus, broken and shed for us.
Mediator	One who stands and arbitrates between two opposing parties. Christ is the mediator between God and man.
Mercy	The act of not inflicting us with what we deserve (similar to grace, which is giving us what we do not deserve).
Ministry	An area of service. A minister is one who serves another.
Omnipotence	All powerful.
Omnipresence	All places at once. (i.e., no spatial limitations)
Omnisapient	All wise.
Omniscience	All knowing.
Ordinance	Similar to a sacrament. An ordered rite that pictures or symbolizes a spiritual reality. There are two: the Lord's supper (communion), and baptism.
Passover	The Jewish feast which celebrates the "passing over" of the angel of the Lord during the tenth and final plague in Egypt.
Pentecost	The Jewish feast held the fiftieth day after the barley harvest. The Pentecost following the resurrection of Christ was when the church started (Acts 2).

Perseverance	The idea of endurance, not falling away or denying the faith. All true believers will persevere in faith, love, and good works, because God preserves them.
Predestination	The idea that God predetermined all things before the foundation of the world.
Preservation	The idea that God keeps his people from losing faith and denying their trust in Christ. Because God keeps them, they endure in faith, love, and good works.
Propitiation	An satisfactory atoning sacrifice.
Providence	God's preserving and controlling all things through secondary causes (i.e., not directly through supernatural intervention).
Reconciliation	The idea that two opposing parties come together in peace and love.
Redeem/Redemption	Comes from the idea of buying someone from slavery, setting them free.
Regeneration	The instantaneous act of God whereby he imparts spiritual life to a person.
Repentance	A true change of mind that is necessarily evidenced in a change of action.
Revelation	The act of God whereby he discloses to man what would otherwise be unknown.
Righteous	To be morally upright, free from sin and corruption.
Sacrament	Similar to ordinance. An ordered rite that pictures or symbolizes a spiritual reality. There are two: the Lord's supper (communion), and baptism. Some wrongly claim this is a means of <i>saving</i> grace.
Salvation	The idea of being rescued from death—eternal torment in hell.
Sanctification	The idea of being progressively transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ—becoming holy.

Saved	The idea of being rescued from death—eternal torment in hell.
Sin	Anything contrary to God in thought, word, or action. It includes doing what is wrong AND not doing what is right.
Sovereignty	God’s completely free control and rule over all things.
Special Revelation	God revealing Himself to man through miracles and signs, dreams and visions, appearances of God in tangible form, through the prophets, through Jesus Christ, and through the written words of God in the Bible.
Supplication	To humbly and earnestly request something of God through prayer.
Tithe	It is an offering of 10 percent of a person’s income to the service of the Lord.
Tongues	Also translated as languages. It was the practice of speaking in a foreign language not known to the speaker but recognized by others. Today it is used to refer to ecstatic speech that is not a true language.
Truth	God’s view of reality.
Wisdom	Applied knowledge.
Worship	The act of ascribing worth to an object or person.