

Twice Born Ministry

TH-126: Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers

Course Code: TH-126

Credit Hours: 3

King James Version (KJV) — Sola Scriptura Curriculum

Generated 2026-06-30

Course Description

TH-126: Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers

Course Description

Baptism; Lord's Supper; elders/deacons

This course is part of **Layer 2 — Theology & Ministry** in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School catalog. It develops college-level competence aligned with historic evangelical systematic theology (Grudem/Ryrie/Chafer lineage) and KJV study standards.

Course Details

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion, students will be able to:

Define and biblically defend key terms and doctrines covered in the syllabus.

Exegete representative passages using literal-grammatical-historical method.

Connect this course's themes to the broader storyline of Scripture (creation → fall → redemption → glorification).

Apply doctrine to personal holiness, local church ministry, and evangelistic witness.

Complete written, oral, and collaborative assessments demonstrating mastery at 70% or higher.

Module Structure

Each lesson includes exposition, historical theology notes, application, discussion prompts, and module-aligned quizzes. Assignments require research, ministry projects, and peer interaction where noted.

Assessment Overview

- **Module quizzes:** 10 questions each (multiple choice + short answer); keys provided.
- **Assignments:** 3–4 graded projects with rubrics.
- **Group projects:** 2 collaborative exercises.
- **Final exam:** Comprehensive short and extended responses.
- **Video supplements:** 3–5 instructor scripts for optional video production.

Christian Guardrails

- • King James Bible as citation standard.
- • Christ-centered, gospel-proclaiming instruction.
- • Respectful engagement with other traditions without compromising essential doctrines.
- • No completion of academic work on behalf of others; AI tools may assist study but not replace original exegesis and reflection.

Instructor Notes

Professor Shepherd AI instructor shortcode: [tb_ai_instructor course_code="TH-126"]

Twice Born Ministry Bible School — Layer 2 Theology & Ministry

Course Modules

TH-126 — Lesson 1: Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 1 of **Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers**. In this session we examine **Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Ecclesiology** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning did not emerge in a vacuum. The early church fathers defended Scripture against Marcion's truncated canon and Gnostic secret writings. Athanasius's Easter letter (367) lists the same New Testament books evangelicals recognize today. The Reformation elevated Scripture above papal decree, while the post-Reformation orthodox period articulated inerrancy with scholastic precision without denying human authorship.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning

Acts 2:42 describes the earliest church: "They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Marks of health include apostolic teaching, shared life, ordinances, and corporate prayer. Where these marks fade, reformation and repentance are needed.

Matthew 16:18 records Jesus' promise: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church is Christ's assembly—called out from the world to worship, witness, and grow in holiness. It is both local (congregations) and universal (all true believers across time).

1 Peter 2:9 announces, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." Priesthood of believers does not eliminate office; it assigns every saint a worship-and-witness vocation.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Romans 1:16-17**. Paul is not ashamed of the gospel because it is God's power unto salvation. Righteousness is revealed from faith to faith—justification by faith stands as the article by which the church stands or falls. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Jude 3-4 complements the lesson theme: Contend earnestly for the faith once delivered. Apologetics and ecclesial vigilance belong together—false teachers creep in unnoticed. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Discussion Questions

How does **Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 1 Summary: We examined **Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies

biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Historical Figure Spotlight

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Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Worship Integration

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TH-126 — Lesson 2: Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 2 of **Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers**. In this session we examine **Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Ecclesiology** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

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Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence did not emerge in a vacuum. The early church fathers defended Scripture against Marcion's truncated canon and Gnostic secret writings. Athanasius's Easter letter (367) lists the same New Testament books evangelicals recognize today. The Reformation elevated Scripture above papal decree, while the post-Reformation orthodox period articulated inerrancy with scholastic precision without denying human authorship.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

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Core Teaching

Main Theme: Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence

Acts 2:42 describes the earliest church: "They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Marks of health include apostolic teaching, shared life, ordinances, and corporate prayer. Where these marks fade, reformation and repentance are needed.

Matthew 16:18 records Jesus' promise: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church is Christ's assembly—called out from the world to worship, witness, and grow in holiness. It is both local (congregations) and universal (all true believers across time).

1 Peter 2:9 announces, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." Priesthood of believers does not eliminate office; it assigns every saint a worship-and-witness vocation.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Hebrews 1:1-4**. God spoke by prophets, then by His Son who is heir of all things and exact impress of His person. Christology and revelation converge: the fullest word is a Person. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

1 Peter 2:4-10 complements the lesson theme: Believers are living stones in a spiritual house, a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices. Ecclesiology and identity merge in worship language. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Discussion Questions

How does **Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 2 Summary: We examined **Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

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Ministry Case Study

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Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

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Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

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TH-126 — Lesson 3: Offices: Elder and Deacon

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 3 of **Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers**. In this session we examine **Offices: Elder and Deacon**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible

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Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Offices: Elder and Deacon did not emerge in a vacuum. The early church fathers defended Scripture against Marcion's truncated canon and Gnostic secret writings. Athanasius's Easter letter (367) lists the same New Testament books evangelicals recognize today. The Reformation elevated Scripture above papal decree, while the post-Reformation orthodox period articulated inerrancy with scholastic precision without denying human authorship.

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Core Teaching

Main Theme: Offices: Elder and Deacon

Acts 2:42 describes the earliest church: "They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Marks of health include apostolic teaching, shared life, ordinances, and corporate prayer. Where these marks fade, reformation and repentance are needed.

Matthew 16:18 records Jesus' promise: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church is Christ's assembly—called out from the world to worship, witness, and grow in holiness. It is both local (congregations) and universal (all true believers across time).

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Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Offices: Elder and Deacon**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

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Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Ephesians 1:3-14**. The triune God blesses, chooses, redeems, and seals according to His gracious will. This passage integrates election, adoption, and inheritance in doxological prose. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Colossians 1:15-20 complements the lesson theme: Christ is preeminent in creation and redemption—firstborn, reconciler, head of the body. Against false teaching, Paul exalts Christ's sufficiency. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Offices: Elder and Deacon** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

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Discussion Questions

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Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

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Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

TH-126 — Lesson 4: Qualifications from Timothy and Titus

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 4 of **Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers**. In this session we examine **Qualifications from Timothy and Titus**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Ecclesiology** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Qualifications from Timothy and Titus did not emerge in a vacuum. The early church fathers defended Scripture against Marcion's truncated canon and Gnostic secret writings. Athanasius's Easter letter (367) lists the same New Testament books evangelicals recognize today. The Reformation elevated Scripture above papal decree, while the post-Reformation orthodox period articulated inerrancy with scholastic precision without denying human authorship.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical

study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Qualifications from Timothy and Titus

Acts 2:42 describes the earliest church: "They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Marks of health include apostolic teaching, shared life, ordinances, and corporate prayer. Where these marks fade, reformation and repentance are needed.

1 Peter 2:9 announces, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." Priesthood of believers does not eliminate office; it assigns every saint a worship-and-witness vocation.

Matthew 16:18 records Jesus' promise: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church is Christ's assembly—called out from the world to worship, witness, and grow in holiness. It is both local (congregations) and universal (all true believers across time).

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Qualifications from Timothy and Titus**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Romans 1:16-17**. Paul is not ashamed of the gospel because it is God's power unto salvation. Righteousness is revealed from faith to faith—justification by faith stands as the article by which the church stands or falls. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

1 Peter 2:4-10 complements the lesson theme: Believers are living stones in a spiritual house, a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices. Ecclesiology and identity merge in worship language. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Qualifications from Timothy and Titus** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Qualifications from Timothy and Titus**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Qualifications from Timothy and Titus** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Discussion Questions

How does **Qualifications from Timothy and Titus** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 4 Summary: We examined **Qualifications from Timothy and Titus** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate

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Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

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using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

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Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

TH-126 — Lesson 5: Plurality of Elders

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 5 of **Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers**. In this session we examine **Plurality of Elders**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Ecclesiology** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in

a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Plurality of Elders did not emerge in a vacuum. The early church fathers defended Scripture against Marcion's truncated canon and Gnostic secret writings. Athanasius's Easter letter (367) lists the same New Testament books evangelicals recognize today. The Reformation elevated Scripture above papal decree, while the post-Reformation orthodox period articulated inerrancy with scholastic precision without denying human authorship.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Plurality of Elders

Matthew 16:18 records Jesus' promise: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church is Christ's assembly—called out from the world to worship, witness, and grow in holiness. It is both local (congregations) and universal (all true believers across time).

1 Peter 2:9 announces, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." Priesthood of believers does not eliminate office; it assigns every saint a worship-and-witness vocation.

Acts 2:42 describes the earliest church: "They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Marks of health include apostolic teaching, shared life, ordinances, and corporate prayer. Where these marks fade, reformation and repentance are needed.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Plurality of Elders**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference

Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Hebrews 1:1-4**. God spoke by prophets, then by His Son who is heir of all things and exact impress of His person. Christology and revelation converge: the fullest word is a Person. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

1 Peter 2:4-10 complements the lesson theme: Believers are living stones in a spiritual house, a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices. Ecclesiology and identity merge in worship language. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Plurality of Elders** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Plurality of Elders**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Plurality of Elders** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Discussion Questions

How does **Plurality of Elders** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 5 Summary: We examined **Plurality of Elders** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on

assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

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Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

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Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

TH-126 — Lesson 6: Deacon Ministry of Mercy

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 6 of **Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers**. In this session we examine **Deacon Ministry of Mercy**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Ecclesiology** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Deacon Ministry of Mercy did not emerge in a vacuum. The early church fathers defended Scripture against Marcion's truncated canon and Gnostic secret writings. Athanasius's Easter letter (367) lists the same New Testament books evangelicals recognize today. The Reformation elevated Scripture above papal decree, while the post-Reformation orthodox period articulated inerrancy with scholastic precision without denying human authorship.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Deacon Ministry of Mercy

Matthew 16:18 records Jesus' promise: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church is Christ's assembly—called out from the world to worship, witness, and grow in

holiness. It is both local (congregations) and universal (all true believers across time).

Acts 2:42 describes the earliest church: "They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Marks of health include apostolic teaching, shared life, ordinances, and corporate prayer. Where these marks fade, reformation and repentance are needed.

1 Peter 2:9 announces, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." Priesthood of believers does not eliminate office; it assigns every saint a worship-and-witness vocation.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Deacon Ministry of Mercy**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Romans 1:16-17**. Paul is not ashamed of the gospel because it is God's power unto salvation. Righteousness is revealed from faith to faith—justification by faith stands as the article by which the church stands or falls. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Colossians 1:15-20 complements the lesson theme: Christ is preeminent in creation and redemption—firstborn, reconciler, head of the body. Against false teaching, Paul exalts Christ's sufficiency. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Deacon Ministry of Mercy** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note

semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Deacon Ministry of Mercy**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Deacon Ministry of Mercy** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Discussion Questions

How does **Deacon Ministry of Mercy** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 6 Summary: We examined **Deacon Ministry of Mercy** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Ministry Case Study

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Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

TH-126 — Lesson 7: Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 7 of **Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers**. In this session we examine **Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Ecclesiology** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation did not emerge in a vacuum. The early church fathers defended Scripture against Marcion's truncated canon and Gnostic secret writings. Athanasius's Easter letter (367) lists the same New Testament books evangelicals recognize today. The Reformation elevated Scripture above papal decree, while the post-Reformation orthodox period articulated inerrancy with scholastic precision without denying human authorship.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation

Matthew 16:18 records Jesus' promise: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church is Christ's assembly—called out from the world to worship, witness, and grow in holiness. It is both local (congregations) and universal (all true believers across time).

Acts 2:42 describes the earliest church: "They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Marks of health include apostolic teaching, shared life, ordinances, and corporate prayer. Where these marks fade, reformation and repentance are needed.

1 Peter 2:9 announces, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." Priesthood of believers does not eliminate office; it assigns every saint a worship-and-witness vocation.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **1 Peter 2:4-10**. Believers are living stones in a spiritual house, a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices. Ecclesiology and identity merge in worship language. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Jude 3-4 complements the lesson theme: Contend earnestly for the faith once delivered. Apologetics and ecclesial vigilance belong together—false teachers creep in unnoticed. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Discussion Questions

How does **Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 7 Summary: We examined **Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension.

Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

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TH-126 — Lesson 8: Church Polity Models Survey

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 8 of **Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers**. In this session we examine **Church Polity Models Survey**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Ecclesiology** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

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Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Church Polity Models Survey did not emerge in a vacuum. The early church fathers defended Scripture against Marcion's truncated canon and Gnostic secret writings. Athanasius's Easter letter (367) lists the same New Testament books evangelicals recognize today. The Reformation elevated Scripture above papal decree, while the post-Reformation orthodox period articulated inerrancy with scholastic precision without denying human authorship.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Church Polity Models Survey

Matthew 16:18 records Jesus' promise: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church is Christ's assembly—called out from the world to worship, witness, and grow in holiness. It is both local (congregations) and universal (all true believers across time).

1 Peter 2:9 announces, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." Priesthood of believers does not eliminate office; it assigns every saint a worship-and-witness vocation.

Acts 2:42 describes the earliest church: "They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Marks of health include apostolic teaching, shared

life, ordinances, and corporate prayer. Where these marks fade, reformation and repentance are needed.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Church Polity Models Survey**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Hebrews 1:1-4**. God spoke by prophets, then by His Son who is heir of all things and exact impress of His person. Christology and revelation converge: the fullest word is a Person. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Ephesians 1:3-14 complements the lesson theme: The triune God blesses, chooses, redeems, and seals according to His gracious will. This passage integrates election, adoption, and inheritance in doxological prose. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Church Polity Models Survey** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Church Polity Models Survey**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Church Polity Models Survey** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Discussion Questions

How does **Church Polity Models Survey** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 8 Summary: We examined **Church Polity Models Survey** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

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Ministry Case Study

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Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

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Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

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TH-126 — Lesson 9: Ordinances in TBM Context

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 9 of **Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers**. In this session we examine **Ordinances in TBM Context**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Ecclesiology** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

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Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Ordinances in TBM Context did not emerge in a vacuum. The early church fathers defended Scripture against Marcion's truncated canon and Gnostic secret writings. Athanasius's Easter letter (367) lists the same New Testament books evangelicals recognize today. The Reformation elevated Scripture above papal decree, while the post-Reformation orthodox period articulated inerrancy with scholastic precision without denying human authorship.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under

worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Ordinances in TBM Context

Matthew 16:18 records Jesus' promise: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church is Christ's assembly—called out from the world to worship, witness, and grow in holiness. It is both local (congregations) and universal (all true believers across time).

1 Peter 2:9 announces, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." Priesthood of believers does not eliminate office; it assigns every saint a worship-and-witness vocation.

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Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Ordinances in TBM Context**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Jude 3-4**. Contend earnestly for the faith once delivered. Apologetics and ecclesial vigilance belong together—false teachers creep in unnoticed. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Hebrews 1:1-4 complements the lesson theme: God spoke by prophets, then by His Son who is heir of all things and exact impress of His person. Christology and revelation converge: the fullest word is a Person. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Ordinances in TBM Context** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Ordinances in TBM Context**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

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Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Ordinances in TBM Context** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

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Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Discussion Questions

How does **Ordinances in TBM Context** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 9 Summary: We examined **Ordinances in TBM Context** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Ministry Case Study

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Worship Integration

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Supplemental Reading and Reflection

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Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

TH-126 — Lesson 10: Ordinances Capstone

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 10 of **Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers**. In this session we examine **Ordinances Capstone**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Ecclesiology** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Ordinances Capstone did not emerge in a vacuum. The early church fathers defended Scripture against Marcion's truncated canon and Gnostic secret writings. Athanasius's Easter letter (367) lists the same New Testament books evangelicals recognize today. The Reformation elevated Scripture above papal decree, while the post-Reformation orthodox period articulated inerrancy with scholastic precision without denying human authorship.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Ordinances Capstone

1 Peter 2:9 announces, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." Priesthood of believers does not eliminate office; it assigns every saint a worship-and-witness vocation.

Acts 2:42 describes the earliest church: "They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Marks of health include apostolic teaching, shared life, ordinances, and corporate prayer. Where these marks fade, reformation and repentance are needed.

Matthew 16:18 records Jesus' promise: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The church is Christ's assembly—called out from the world to worship, witness, and grow in holiness. It is both local (congregations) and universal (all true believers across time).

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Ordinances Capstone**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Jude 3-4**. Contend earnestly for the faith once delivered. Apologetics and ecclesial vigilance belong together—false teachers creep in unnoticed. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Romans 1:16-17 complements the lesson theme: Paul is not ashamed of the gospel because it is God's power unto salvation. Righteousness is revealed from faith to faith—justification by faith stands as the article by which the church stands or falls. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Ordinances Capstone** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Ordinances Capstone**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Ordinances Capstone** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Discussion Questions

How does **Ordinances Capstone** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 10 Summary: We examined **Ordinances Capstone** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Historical Figure Spotlight

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Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the

Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Worship Integration

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Appendix A — Assignments

Week 01

Week 01 Assignment — Reflection Journal

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 1: Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **analyze** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 1: Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Analyze: Write a 300–500 word reflection on **TH-126 — Lesson 1: Baptism: Mode, Subjects, Meaning**. Include at least two KJV citations and one personal application.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Baptism, Subjects

Week 02

Week 02 Assignment — Memory Verse Application

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 2: Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **apply** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 2: Lord's Supper: Memorial and Presence** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Apply: Recite Memory Verse:** Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic. from memory, then write 250 words explaining how it applies to daily discipleship.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Supper, Memorial

Week 03

Week 03 Assignment — Expository Outline

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 3: Offices: Elder and Deacon

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **outline** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 3: Offices: Elder and Deacon** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Outline: Produce a structured outline (400+ words) for the main passage in **TH-126 — Lesson 3: Offices: Elder and Deacon**. Include pericope titles and one-sentence themes.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Offices, Elder

Week 04

Week 04 Assignment — Discussion Response

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 4: Qualifications from Timothy and Titus

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **explain** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 4: Qualifications from Timothy and Titus** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Explain: Answer two discussion prompts from the Week 4 reading in 200 words each. Cite KJV only.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)**Auto-grade hints**

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Qualifications, Timothy

Week 05**Week 05 Assignment — Practical Ministry Step**

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 5: Plurality of Elders

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **demonstrate** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 5: Plurality of Elders** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Demonstrate: Complete one practical ministry action tied to **TH-126 — Lesson 5: Plurality of Elders** (visit, prayer walk, family worship, or service). Submit a 200-word report plus optional photo upload.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Manual review (practical/upload).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)**Week 06****Week 06 Assignment — Witness Outline**

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 6: Deacon Ministry of Mercy

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **construct** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 6: Deacon Ministry of Mercy** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Construct: Draft a 3-minute spoken witness outline using this week's theme. Include gospel bridge, one objection with biblical answer, and call to faith.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Deacon, Ministry

Week 07

Week 07 Assignment — Cross-Reference Study

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 7: Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **compare** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 7: Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Compare: Find three cross-references that illuminate **TH-126 — Lesson 7: Ordinances and Gospel Proclamation**. Write 400 words comparing themes (OT + NT).

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Ordinances, Gospel

Week 08

Week 08 Assignment — Historical Context Brief

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 8: Church Polity Models Survey

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **describe** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 8: Church Polity Models Survey** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Describe: Write 350 words on historical/literary context for **TH-126 — Lesson 8: Church Polity Models Survey**. Minimum four KJV citations.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Church, Polity

Week 09

Week 09 Assignment — Christological Connection Essay

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 9: Ordinances in TBM Context

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **evaluate** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 9: Ordinances in TBM Context** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Evaluate: Explain how **TH-126 — Lesson 9: Ordinances in TBM Context** points to Christ in 400–600 words. Use literal-grammatical-historical method.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Ordinances, Context

Week 10

Week 10 Assignment — Teaching Prep

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 10: Ordinances Capstone

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **design** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 10: Ordinances Capstone** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Design: Prepare a 5-minute teaching outline for **TH-126 — Lesson 10: Ordinances Capstone** suitable for a small group or homeschool lesson.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Ordinances, Capstone

Week 11

Week 11 Assignment — Integration & Review

Course: TH-126 · Ordinances & Church Officers

Week focus: TH-126 — Lesson 10: Ordinances Capstone

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **synthesize** course content from **TH-126 — Lesson 10: Ordinances Capstone** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Synthesize: Synthesize the top five themes from Ordinances & Church Officers. 600 words, minimum six KJV citations, one paragraph on personal growth.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Ordinances, Capstone

Week 12

Creative Ministry Project — TH-126

Course: Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers

Code: TH-126

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **create** an original ministry artifact synthesizing course themes with KJV fidelity and scholarship-gallery quality.

Overview

Complete an original **Creative Ministry Project** demonstrating what you learned in this course. Select one project type when submitting your assignment. Approved work may appear in the [Scholarship Gallery](<https://twicebornministry.com/bible-school/scholarships/>) so supporters can **donate toward**

student scholarships — you retain credit and ownership of your work.

> This is ministry education, not a sale of intellectual property. Donations fund scholarships.

Project types

Requirements

Original work — cite all Scripture in KJV; footnote other sources.

Course connection — explicitly tie your project to at least two module themes from TH-126.

Ministry focus — aim to edify believers or reach seekers with the gospel.

Upload — submit via the **Creative Ministry Project** assignment at the end of the course; select your project type in the form.

Length guides:

- Written: 800–1500 words
- Audio/Video: see durations above
- Photography: 1–3 images + caption
- Application: working prototype + 300-word user guide

Grading rubric (100 points)

Pass: 70%

Scholarship gallery

If your project is approved, it may be listed at /bible-school/scholarships/ with a **Support this student** donation button. Supporters give toward the scholarship fund for your project type — not to purchase your content.

Prayer

> *"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer."* — Psalm 19:14 (KJV)

Grading

Grading mode: Manual review (creative upload).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Creative Ministry Project

Creative Ministry Project — TH-126

Course: Ecclesiology II: Ordinances & Church Officers

Code: TH-126

Overview

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