

Firm Foundations

Secure in Christ

book 6

Study Guide

Trevor McIlwain



The Scripture version used in these lessons is the New King James Version (NKJV).

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Firm Foundations Secure In Christ (Revised Edition)
Book 6: Study Guide

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312 W 1st St
Sanford, FL 32771

Leon Trevor McIlwain

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What is *Firm Foundations*?

Just what is *Firm Foundations*? It is foundational, chronological Bible teaching.

This method of teaching is patterned on God's progressive revelation of Himself and His plan to rescue people from sin, Satan and death. Lessons start "in the beginning." Moving through the Old and New Testaments, *Firm Foundations* highlights the themes that run through all of God's Word. This builds, from lesson to lesson, an understanding of the Bible as a whole.

This practical approach has been used all over the world, and is proven for:

- Evangelism
- Grounding new believers
- Teaching maturing believers
- Planting churches

Firm Foundations arose from the experience of Trevor McIlwain in the 1960s. While working cross-culturally with a people group in the Philippines, Trevor saw the need to establish proper biblical foundations. He developed Bible lessons to meet that need. As Trevor states, "The Scriptures were progressively revealed by God within the context and framework of history. Therefore, the best way to teach divine truth in any culture is God's way, within the chronological and historical framework of the Scriptures."

Trevor shared this approach with other missionaries who were also teaching cross-culturally, initially distributing his basic outline and later detailed Bible lessons. They discovered, as he had, that this *Firm Foundations* approach was exceptionally effective.

When these missionaries returned home, their glowing testimonies inspired pastors and other Bible teachers to adopt this method. As a result, the *Firm Foundations* lessons were modified for churches and home Bible studies, and this approach has proven equally effective in English-speaking settings as in cross-cultural settings.

Since that time, adaptations of the *Firm Foundations* materials have been developed for many languages, cultural contexts and age groups.

You are now a part of the *Firm Foundations* legacy!

How to Use This Study Guide

You are about to embark on an exciting journey through the Bible. In this Study Guide, you will be reviewing the Old Testament stories which you studied in *Firm Foundations: Creation to Christ*, but with a different focus. That study emphasized that those who do not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior are separated from God, without any hope. In contrast, this study, *Firm Foundations: Secure in Christ*, emphasizes that all who have trusted in Jesus as their Savior are completely secure in their relationship with God.

You will be encouraged and strengthened as you learn that all believers have been reconciled to God, are covered with Christ's righteousness, and are safe from the judgment of God because of Christ's death, burial, resurrection and ascension.

This Study Guide is intended to be used in conjunction with the *Firm Foundations: Secure in Christ* Bible study.

This Study Guide provides a space where you can take notes while the teacher expands on the lesson. In addition, questions are included for personal study and review after class. You will find an Answer Key at the end of each lesson to check your answers.

Lesson
1

God has made us His children for His glory.

Lesson Outline and Scripture	For Class Notes
1. God sees only two categories of people in the world.	_____ _____
2. God has made us His children. (John 1:11-12; Galatians 3:26)	_____ _____
3. God desires that His children worship Him. (John 4:24; Colossians 3:16; Revelation 4:11)	_____ _____
4. God is glorified as we praise Him through singing. (Exodus 15:1-5; Job 38:4-7; Psalm 145:1-9; Ephesians 5:19)	_____ _____
5. God is glorified as we tell one another what He is doing in our lives. (1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 3:17)	_____ _____
6. God is glorified when we communicate with Him. (Philippians 4:6; 1 Thessalonians 5:18; 1 Timothy 2:5)	_____ _____
7. Conclusion	_____ _____

Personal Study Questions

1. What two categories of people does God recognize in the world?

2. Which group are the lessons in *Firm Foundations: Secure in Christ* designed for?

3. What miracle did God’s Spirit perform within you the moment you put your faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior?

4. According to Revelation 4:11, what does God deserve as glorious Creator and rightful Master?

5. What does it mean to worship God “*in spirit and in truth*”? (Refer to John 4:24.)

6. Why does our worship add nothing to God’s glory and power?

7. What have you learned about God’s character that causes you to worship Him?

8. What has God done that causes you to worship Him?

9. What are specific ways we can worship God?

10. Choose an example from Scripture of someone singing in response to God's character or deeds. (Refer to Job 38:4-7; Exodus 15:1-5; Psalm 145:1-9.) How does this example relate to us today.

11. How is God glorified when we tell one another what He is doing in our lives?

12. In the same way that human parents desire to have their children talk with them, what does God desire from His children?

13. Why does God accept us and listen to us when we pray? (Refer to 1 Timothy 2:5.)

14. What should we give thanks for in our prayers?

15. What are some things we could ask God for in our prayers?

Personal Study Answers

1. The two categories of people that God recognizes are those who have become His children and those who are still the children of Satan.
2. *"Firm Foundations: Secure in Christ"* was designed for those who are children of God.
3. God's Spirit made us children of God and members of God's family.
4. According to Revelation 4:11, God deserves our worship.
5. To worship God *"in spirit and in truth"* is to worship Him from within, in sincerity, and according to the way He has shown us in His Word.
6. Our worship adds nothing to God's glory and power because He is glorious and powerful in Himself. He does not need worshipers for Him to be who He is.
7. Many aspects of God's character cause us to worship Him, including these:
 - He communicates with man.
 - He is eternal.
 - He is everywhere.
 - He knows absolutely everything.
 - He is the highest and absolute authority in the universe.
 - He is holy and righteous.
 - There is no limit to His power.
 - His love, grace and mercy are limitless.
 - He is completely faithful and trustworthy.
 - He never changes.
8. God has done many things to cause us to worship Him, including these:
 - He created everything.
 - He sent the Lord Jesus to take the punishment for our sin.
 - He made us His children by the power of the Holy Spirit.
9. We can worship God in many ways, such as:
 - Through singing.
 - Through sharing with others what God has done for us.
 - Through praying.
10. Examples from Scripture of singing in response to God's character or deeds relate to us today.
 - According to Job 38:4-7, the angels sang with joy, praising and worshiping God, as they witnessed Him creating the universe and everything in it. Like them, we can worship and praise God for the wisdom and power He exercised in creating great and wonderful things.
 - According to Exodus 15:1-5, the Israelites sang praises to God for His great power in delivering them from Pharaoh and his army at the Red Sea. Like them, we can sing praises to God for delivering us from the power of Satan and from the punishment for our sins.
 - Psalm 145:1-9 is part of a song David wrote of praise to God for His daily goodness. We can also sing songs about God's goodness to us.
11. God is glorified when we tell one another what He is doing in our lives, because we are honoring Him before others.
12. God desires for His children to communicate with Him.
13. God accepts us and listens to us when we pray because of the Lord Jesus. The only way anyone can come to God is through the merits of Christ. He is the only Mediator between God and man.
14. We can give thanks for many things, such as:
 - Salvation through Christ.
 - God's blessings and kindnesses to us day by day.
15. We can ask God for many things, such as:
 - To teach us and to change us so we become more like the Lord Jesus in everything we think, say and do.
 - To supply our needs and those of our fellow Christians.
 - To heal the sick, submitting to Him and trusting Him to do what's best.
 - To convict the unsaved of their sinfulness and their great need to be saved.
 - To guide us as we take the good news of Jesus' death, burial and resurrection to others around us.
 - To help missionaries who have gone to tell people who have never heard about God and His love for them.