

A photograph of a weathered, white wooden church with a prominent steeple topped with a cross. The church is situated in a field of tall, golden-brown grass under a dramatic, cloudy sky. The text "Church Growth" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Church Growth

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Church Growth

- ▶ Three things necessary for true church growth:
 - ▶ Growth in spiritual understanding. ***2 Pet. 3:18***
 - ▶ Numbers alone not sign of growth. ***Matt. 7:13-14***
 - ▶ True growth must first be spiritual, secure own salvation. ***Acts 2:40; 1 Pet. 2:2; Eph. 4:15***
 - ▶ If you are closer to Jesus now than in times past, you have grown!

Church Growth

- ▶ Three things necessary for true church growth:
 - ▶ Growth in service. **1 Cor. 12:12, 14**
 - ▶ Growth in quality of efforts made and number of efforts made.
 - ▶ Must rid idea of “let someone else do it”.
 - ▶ Saints are to be equipped for service. **Eph. 4:11-12**
 - ▶ Some know well the words of the gospel, but greater is the one who understands the message. **Mark 9:33-35**

Church Growth

- ▶ Three things necessary for true church growth:
 - ▶ Increase in conversions. *Acts 6:1a*
 - ▶ Early church increased rapidly. *Acts 6:7; 12:24; 16:5*
 - ▶ When we talk about growth, most think about conversions.
 - ▶ But today, increase in numbers most of the times is a matter of members dissatisfied with one congregation seeking satisfaction in another.

Church Growth

- ▶ How can growth be achieved?
 - ▶ We need strong Bible teaching. ***Matt. 28:19-20***
 - ▶ Thus the importance of Bible classes. ***Rom. 1:16***
 - ▶ Church will grow when Christians tell others what they know. ***Acts 8:4***
 - ▶ Power in the message, not the speaker. ***1 Cor. 2:1-5***
 - ▶ Must preach all the word. ***2 Tim. 4:1-5; Acts 20:20, 27, 31-32***

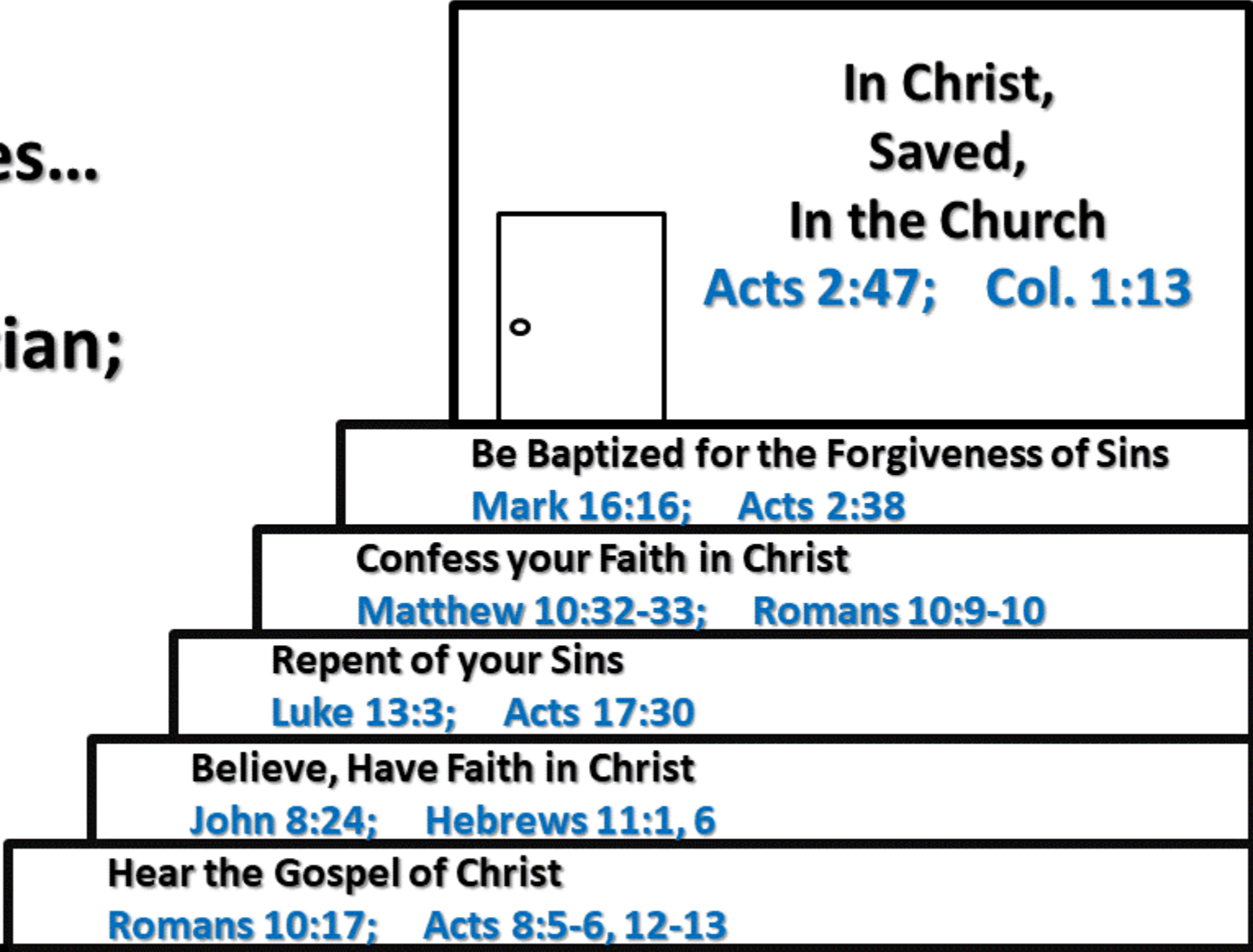
Church Growth

- ▶ How can growth be achieved?
 - ▶ We need committed Christians.
 - ▶ Christianity is not a “walk in the park”.
Luke 14:26-27
 - ▶ Must be willing even to die.
Rev. 2:10
 - ▶ Jesus is looking for total commitment.
Matt. 8:19-22

Church Growth

- ▶ How can growth be achieved?
 - ▶ Being welcoming and friendly.
 - ▶ Must show love for others if indeed we are Christ's disciples. ***John 13:34-35, 1 John 3:18-19***
 - ▶ A sermon on "love" is far more effective when seen than heard.

**The Bible Teaches...
That In Order To
Become A Christian;
One Must:**



**In Christ,
Saved,
In the Church**
Acts 2:47; Col. 1:13

Be Baptized for the Forgiveness of Sins
Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38

Confess your Faith in Christ
Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

Repent of your Sins
Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30

Believe, Have Faith in Christ
John 8:24; Hebrews 11:1, 6

Hear the Gospel of Christ
Romans 10:17; Acts 8:5-6, 12-13

Lost! Sinner! Without Hope!
Romans 3:10, 23; Ephesians 2:12