CHARIS BELIEFS

The Church

RESOURCE PACKET



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Teaching Resource

This tool is designed for use in local church discipleship settings. These might include large gatherings of the church's teaching ministry, Adult Bible Fellowship, Sunday School, Small Groups, or other Bible Studies.

Recommended Schedule (60-75 Minutes)

- 1. Group Welcome and Opening Prayer (:05)
- 2. Teacher's Introduction of the Lesson Topic (:05)
 - Create an introduction from the <u>Church statement</u>
- 3. View the Lesson Video as a Group (:23) *Note longer video length
 - Link to the <u>Church video</u>
- 4. Highlight Key Biblical Themes from the Statement & Video (:12-17)
 - Teacher clarifies technical concepts and further explores the content
- 5. Group Discussion (:10-20)
 - Distribute and discuss the questions provided on the following page
- 6. Closing Remarks or Praise Chorus and Prayer (:05)

Additional Discipleship Recommendations:

- Provide learners with a key memory verse from the content
- Provide a copy of the statement as a pre-study or post-study tool



Group Discussion Questions

Discuss answers to the following questions related to this study. As you share ideas and formulate answers to the questions, work to incorporate key scripture verses that relate directly or indirectly to this Church study.

- 1. The Bible's teaching on the Church, its relation to Israel, and the future end times are important but complex issues. They are also biblical matters upon which the Charis Fellowship of churches take a position. *Discuss why having both convictions and humility about these issues is important.*
- 2. The story of the Bible tells God's pursuit of a relationship with people—the Jews and the Gentiles—through two Covenants He made with them. *Describe your understanding of the Bible's Old and New Covenants.*
- 3. The Old Covenant included ethnic Jews, while the New Covenant includes Jews and (non-Jewish) Gentiles. The Church, therefore, unites the human race in such a way that all "ethnicities" and people groups are reconciled and made one—unified in Christ. *How can the Bible's teaching on race and ethnicity unify a fractured world through the power of the gospel?*
- 4. The Charis Fellowship speaks of an imminent time in the future when the present Church Age will end and the Lord comes in the air to remove (rapture) His Church from the earth, while fulfilling His original promises to Israel. *Explain the rapture and its implications in your own words*.
- 5. The Second Coming of Christ includes the personal, visible, and physical return of a victorious Christ who overcomes evil and establishes His Kingdom. *What is your understanding of the Bible's teaching of the Second Coming of Christ and His (1000 year) Millennial Reign on earth?*

Ordination and Mentoring Resource

This tool is designed for use in local church and district settings. These might include groups of pastors, church planters, or ordination candidates.

Recommended Ordination Preparation or Mentoring Meeting Schedule (60-75 Minutes)

Before the Meeting: *Provide the candidate/mentee with a copy of the statement for pre-meeting study preparation*

- 1. Welcome and Opening Prayer (:05)
- 2. Mentor's Introduction of the Lesson Topic (:05) Create an introduction from the <u>Church statement</u>
- 3. View the Lesson Video (:23) *Note longer video length
 - Link to the <u>Church video</u>
- 4. Q & A Time (:10-25)
 - Discuss relevant theme questions provided on the following page
- 5. Highlight Key Biblical Themes from the Statement & Video (:12)
 - Mentor clarifies technical concepts and deepens the content
- 6. Closing Remarks and Prayer (:05)

Additional Discipleship Recommendation:

• Provide candidate/mentee with a key memory verse from the content

Ordination Candidate or Ministry Mentee Discussion Questions

Use the following questions to quiz and examine ordination candidates or ministry mentees. Encourage them to discuss their answers to the following questions related to this study. As they share ideas and formulate answers to the questions, encourage them to incorporate key scripture verses that relate directly or indirectly to this Church study. Be prepared to give guidance as needed.

- 1. Evangelical Dispensational theology held by the Charis Fellowship holds that the Church began at Pentecost as part of the New Covenant. But it also holds that God nonetheless continued to honor His commitment to the people of Israel made in the Old Covenant by grafting the Gentiles into one unified people of God (Eph 2:14-16). *Explain your understanding of the similarities and differences between Israel and the Church*.
- 2. The Charis Fellowship speaks of an imminent time in the future when the present Church Age will end and the Lord comes in the air to remove (rapture) His Church from the earth, while fulfilling His promises to Israel. *Explain the reasons for the rapture, its importance, and its implications.*
- 3. The future Tribulation ("Jacob's Trouble") includes 7 years of divine judgment where God works to fulfill His earlier Covenant with Israel by preparing a Jewish remnant to preach Christ as Messiah and Savior, thereby restoring Israel during the Millennial Kingdom. *Outline your understanding of the sequence and purposes of the Tribulation and Millennium*.
- 4. The Second Coming of Christ includes the personal, visible, and physical return of a victorious Christ who overcomes evil and establishes His initial Kingdom on earth and then for eternity in Heaven. *What is your understanding of the Bible's teaching of the Second Coming and Millennial Reign?*

- 5. The story of the Bible tells God's pursuit of a relationship with people—the Jews and the Gentiles—through two Covenants He made with them. *Describe your understanding of the Bible's Old and New Covenants—and what the church's posture toward a lost world and to the people of Israel should be shaped by these teachings.*
- 6. There are other views of Eschatology (the End Times) that differ from the positions taken by most Charis Fellowship churches. *Describe the high points of the Amillennial, Postmillennial, and Preterist views, and what you consider are the primary scriptural errors of each.*

THIS RESOURCE IS PRESENTED BY INSPIRE CHARIS PASTORS NETWORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GRACE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY'S CHARIS COLLECTIVE







