# A Faith to Live By

An Independent Study of the Westminster Confession of Faith

How to use this study guide effectively each week:

- 1. **Pray** that the Holy Spirit would use the week's material to increase your knowledge of God and His Word. (see Psalm 119:1-8)
- 2. Read the Confession of Faith (WCF) sections listed. Read the proof texts too.
- Memorize the Scripture verse(s) listed.
  (Sometimes they may not line up with the particular WCF sections, but they all build to give good memory references for the overall chapter.)
- 4. Work through the discussion questions. It is best to write down your answers. The questions may sometimes be difficult. Think, pray, ponder. Don't worry if you don't have answers to everything! We will discuss at our monthly meeting. Our main goal is thoughtfulness on the matters of God's Word, not getting everything right or clear the first time through.
- 5. Come to the monthly discussion prepared to interact with the material.

# July

### Week 1 (7/14)

- Read: WCF 25.1-2
- Memorize: Ephesians 1:22-23 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.
- Study questions:

## Section 1

1. What is the invisible church?

## Section 2

2. What is the visible church?

3. What do you think it means that the visible church is "the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ"?

Week 2 (7/21)

- Read: WCF 25.3
- Memorize: Ephesians 4:11-13

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

- Study questions:

## Section 3

4. What is the ministry of God?

5. What are the oracles of God?

6. What are the ordinances of God?

7. What is the primary purpose of the Church?

Week 3 (7/28)

- Read: WCF 25.4-6
- Memorize: Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.
- Study questions:

#### Section 4

8. What are the three tests of purity for the Church?

#### Section 5

9. To what kinds of error are churches sometimes subject?

#### Section 6

10. Why is it important to be clear about Christ as head of the Church? What implications of His headship do we see in the order of the Church?