

Lesson 5: Getting Involved in MAST

Part B

Ascribing to Essential Beliefs

Essential beliefs are those that define a follower of Jesus Christ and can never be compromised or ignored. In their **Statement of Faith** Door 43 defines these essential beliefs:

- That the Bible is the only inspired, inerrant, sufficient, authoritative Word of God
- That there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- In the deity of Jesus Christ
- In the humanity of Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of the Father
- That every person is inherently sinful and so is deserving of eternal hell
- That salvation from sin is a gift of God, provided through the sacrificial death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, attained by grace through faith, not by works
- That true faith is always accompanied by repentance and regeneration by the Holy Spirit
- In the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the follower of Jesus Christ is enabled to live a godly life
- In the spiritual unity of all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, from all nations and languages and people groups
- In the personal and physical return of Jesus Christ
- In the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; the unsaved will be resurrected to eternal damnation in hell and the saved will be resurrected to eternal blessing in heaven with God

Peripheral beliefs

Peripheral beliefs are everything else that is in Scripture but about which sincere followers of Christ may disagree (for example, Baptism, Lord's Supper, the Rapture, and so on). We choose to agree to disagree agreeably on these topics and press on together toward a common goal of making disciples of every people group (Matthew 28:18-20).

Exercise: Essential and Non-Essential Beliefs

Which belief could disqualify someone for a MAST event?

1. Christian women should not wear makeup.
2. The Holy Spirit helps a believer to be godly.
3. The Holy Spirit convicts unbelievers and helps them to repent.
4. Jesus was born a man and earned the title "Son of God" because of his good works.

Which of these statements relates to an essential belief? To a non-essential belief?

Answers:

Believing statement #4 could disqualify someone from a MAST event.

Essential beliefs are statements 2, 3, and 4. Statement #1 relates to a non-essential belief.

Which belief could disqualify someone for a MAST event?

1. The Holy Spirit lives in each believer.
2. The Bible is a guide to life equal to other philosophical books.
3. Jesus was God before he was born on this earth.
4. It is sinful for Christians to dance.

Which of these statements relates to an essential belief? To a non-essential belief?

Answers:

Believing statement #2 could disqualify someone from a MAST event.

Essential beliefs are statements 1, 2, and 3. Statement #4 relates to a non-essential belief.

Which belief could disqualify someone for a MAST event?

1. I must believe in Jesus and live a good life to be saved.
2. The Bible is God-breathed and, in the original, contains no errors.
3. Jesus is now alive in heaven with God the Father.
4. I see nothing wrong with having an occasional glass of wine.

Which of these statements relates to an essential belief? To a non-essential belief?

Answers:

Believing statement #1 could disqualify someone from a MAST event.

Essential beliefs are statements 1, 2, and 3. Statement #4 relates to a non-essential belief.

Which belief could disqualify someone for a MAST event?

1. There's no way I could ever earn a spot in heaven by my own effort.
2. Christians should observe communion every single time they meet.
3. I don't think it was possible for Jesus to really perform miracles.
4. It doesn't matter whether you're baptized as an infant or an adult, as long as you've been baptized.

Which of these statements relates to an essential belief? To a non-essential belief?

Answers:

Believing statement #3 could disqualify someone from a MAST event.

Essential beliefs are statements 1 and 3. Statements 2 and 4 relate to a non-essential belief.

Which belief could disqualify someone for a MAST event?

1. Christian women should have long hair.
2. Those who don't believe in Jesus are destined for hell.
3. The virgin birth seems pretty far-fetched to me...I just can't believe it really happened that way.
4. The Rapture will occur before the Tribulation.

Which of these statements relates to an essential belief? To a non-essential belief?

Answers:

Believing statement #3 could disqualify someone from a MAST event.

Essential beliefs are statements 2 and 3. Statements 1 and 4 relate to a non-essential belief.

Event Job Descriptions

Previous lessons have described the tasks and qualifications of MAST facilitators. What other jobs are involved in a MAST event?

Mother tongue and peer translators (MTTs and PTs) translate the source language into the target language. These individuals must be able to attend the MAST event for at least 5 consecutive days. They should be fluent in both target and source languages, having used the target language in daily life for at least the past 5 years. They can also act as peer checkers for other MTTs.

The **audiovisual resource person (AVR)** maintains computer, projection, printing, recording, and any other equipment used by the project.

The **technology resource person** sets up and maintains computers, tablets, or other technical tools used by the project.

The **team leader (TL)** is responsible for all administrative matters related to the preparation for and running of a MAST event.

Getting Involved

There are two ways to initiate your involvement in a MAST project.

- Go through the Wycliffe Associates website at wycliffeassociates.org:
 - Select the menu items **Get Involved** → **Volunteer Opportunities**, and then click the **Current Volunteer Opportunities** button.
 - or use this URL: <https://www.wycliffeassociates.org/get-involved/volunteer-opportunities/current-list>
 - Select the **Education** category from the drop-down list.
 - You can click **Request Information** to contact WA Recruiting about a specific trip.
- Alternatively you can directly contact a WA recruiter at one of the following email addresses:
 - jennifer_cunneen@wycliffeassociates.org
 - ruben_garay@wycliffeassociates.org
 - judith_yon@wycliffeassociates.org

Summary

There are not as many requirements for translators as for facilitators, in accordance with the theory that we should accept whomever the Lord sends. However, translators should agree to apply translation guidelines. Additionally, all participants should ascribe to a set of core beliefs, even if they disagree about other beliefs and practices.

There are several roles that are filled by MAST volunteers. To get involved, you can request information about upcoming MAST events.

Exercises

Peer Review

If you are taking this course with another person, switch drafts and check each other's work for accuracy and grammar. If changes are made, the checker should discuss them with the writer.

If you are taking this course by yourself, check your own paraphrase with the source text for accuracy and grammar. Make any corrections that may be needed.

Checking Important Terms

Check your paraphrase of the book of Philemon for the presence and translation consistency of the following important terms:

Prayers: 4,22

Love: 5,7,9

Fellowship: 6,17

Goodness: 6,14

Heart: 7,12,20

Refresh: 7,20

Brother: 7,20

http://www.resourcepublications.net/pdfs/study_aids/colossians/col_phil_ov_09.pdf

Congratulations! You have completed the training for MAST facilitators. Now it's time to sign up for a MAST trip.