

Readily Available, User-Friendly Resources on BAPTIST PRINCIPLES

Book

The Baptist Identity: Four Fragile Freedoms, by Walter B. Shurden (Smith & Helwys Publishing, Macon, Georgia, 1993).

<http://www.helwys.com/books/baptist.html>

Dr. Shurden, the Callaway Professor of Christianity at Mercer University, explores Baptist principles, identified as Bible Freedom, Soul Freedom, Church Freedom, and Religious Freedom. Recommended for individual or group study, which can be aided by a leader's guide written by Terry R. Hamrick. The guide contains reproducible lessons and appendices. (both available at publisher's website)

Study Guide

We Are Baptists, by Jeffrey D. Jones and Debra L. Sutton (Judson Press, Valley Forge, PA, 2000), comes in workbook versions - Studies for Younger Elementary Children, Studies for Older Elementary Children, Studies for Youth, and Studies for Adults. Each of the 14 lessons contains clear guidelines for the teacher and reproducible handouts for the students. The first six lessons (Soul Freedom, Believers' Baptism, The Bible, Priesthood of All Believers, Religious Liberty, and Autonomy of the Local Church) emphasize Baptist principles. The remaining lessons deal with the ministries and mission of disciples and the church. You need only one copy for each age group. (available at <http://www.abc-usa.org> then hit Judson Press and Curricula)

Pamphlet

10 Facts You Should Know about American Baptists offers ten descriptive statements about American Baptists that assume the basic Baptist principles without focusing on them directly. It is interesting that in the attempt to characterize who we are, the principles shine through. Available at www.abc-usa.org.

Websites

www.abc-usa.org is the denomination website. Many of the resources listed here are available from ABCUSA. See www.abc-usa.org/heritage as well.

Coalition for Baptist Principles	http://www.abcprinciples.org/
Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Freedom	http://www.bjconline.org/index.html
First Freedoms Project	http://www.firstfreedoms.com/
The Center for Baptist Studies	http://centerforbaptiststudies.org/
Mainstream Baptists	http://www.mainstreambaptists.org/
Roger Williams Fellowship	http://rogerwilliamsfellowship.squarespace.com