Ephesians 4:1-6  I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Faith – the means of being born again

1 John 5:1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him.

Faith – the means of adoption

John 1:11-13 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Faith – the channel by which the soul is connect with God for a fulfilled life

John 6:35 Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

I. The unique role of saving faith

Secondary uniting factors

- Common interests
- Similar tastes
- Culture
- Traditions
- Nationality
- Language
- Political views
- Common goals
- Building
**Ephesians 1:4-6** I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**Titus 1:4** To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Jude 1:3** Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

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**II. Effectual nature of saving faith**

Faith is the acknowledgement of God’s greatness, humility before Him and obedience to His Word, which comes from trusting Him.

**Notitia** – the object of faith, knowing the essence of what or whom we believe

Word of Grace Bible Church is a conservative Baptist church and holds to the classical Baptist doctrinal views. The primary doctrinal standard of WGBC is the Bible in its natural, historical-grammatical interpretation, as well as the beliefs of the pre-WWII Union of the Baptists of Russia edited by F.P. Pavlov (y.1906) and I.V. Odintsov (y.1928), and the Baptist confession of 1698, also known as the Second London Baptist Confession of Faith.

**Assensus** – the assurance in the authority of the object of faith, that the object of faith is trustworthy, tested, and can be trusted.

We believe that the Holy Scriptures - … – are true and inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that all of these books combined compose one true revelation to mankind and are the only source of truth to know God. The Bible in its original form is the inerrant and infallible Word of God, God-breathed in all its parts.

**Fiducia** – personal, practical obedience to the object of faith.

**1 Thessalonians 2:13** And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God (notitia), which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God (assensus), which is at work in you believers (fiducia).
III. Main function of saving faith

One body
One Spirit
One hope
One Lord
One baptism
One God and Father

One body
One Spirit
One hope
One Lord
One baptism
One God and Father
A. One Lord

Ephesians 1:4-6 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

1 Corinthians 3:11 For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Colossians 1:19-22 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. 21 And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22 he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.

Romans 3:21-24 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 1:30-31 And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Galatians 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

Romans 12:4-5 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

B. One baptism

Ephesians 1:4-6 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Romans 6:3-5 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.
1 Thessalonians 3:2  and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the gospel of Christ, to establish and exhort you in your faith.

1 Thessalonians 3:10  as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

1 Peter 1:6-7  In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.