



IS **BAPTISM**
YOUR NEXT STEP?

THE GOSPEL

What does it mean to follow Jesus?

Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

- **What does this say about sin, people, consequences, and God?**
- **According to these verses, what do we deserve? What does God want to give us?**

John 3:16-17, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Romans 5:6 "When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners."

Romans 5:8, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

- **Since we can not make it to heaven on our own, what does God do for us?**

Romans 10:9, "If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

- **What does it say that we have to do to accept Jesus' gift of salvation?**

2 Corinthians 5:17, This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

- **After you accept Jesus's free gift of salvation, setting him apart as Lord and Savior of your life, what does this passage say happens to you?**

Ask yourself, is this you?

Is Jesus the Lord of your life?

Are you trusting in His sacrifice alone for your sins?

If you answered yes,

You are a Christian and Baptism is for you!

BAPTISM

What is it and why is it important?

What now?

After accepting Jesus as your Lord and Savior, Christians are called to the act of obedience of publicly demonstrating their personal commitment to Jesus Christ through baptism.

Ephesians 2:8-9 “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works so that no one may boast.”

- BAPTISM DOES NOT SAVE YOU.
- So why should you get baptized? If not to save you, then why?

Jesus Modeled it

Mark 1:9 “Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized by John in the river.”

Matthew 3:13-16 “Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. 14 But John tried to talk him out of it. “I am the one who needs to be baptized by you,” he said, “so why are you coming to me?” 15 But Jesus said, “It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires.” So John agreed to baptize him. 16 After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, “This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy.”

Jesus Commands it

Matthew 28:18-19 “Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 2:38 “Peter said them, Repent and be baptized.”

- What would be a good reason to get baptized? What would be a bad reason to get baptized?

Why do we baptize by immersion or dunking?

Greek word BAPTIZO: Means to DUNK or IMMERSE

All of the examples we see in scripture of baptism are people being immersed which is why we practice immersion or dunking.

What does baptism symbolize? What is its message?

Baptism illustrates Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection.

1 Cor. 15:3-4 "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."

Colossians 2:12 "Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead."

Baptism illustrates new life as a Christian, trusting and obeying Jesus.

Romans 6:4 "By our baptism then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead... so also we may live a new life."

We are declaring that we are followers of Jesus publicly.

Matthew 10:32 "So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven."

Next Steps

- Talk with a trusted person (parent, small group leader, ministry lead, etc.) about becoming a Christian.
- Fill out a Baptism Card. A Ministry Lead will reach out if you fill out the card and talk through scheduling your baptism.