

JUNIOR



Hello, friends!

We're so happy you're here. We wanted to provide this additional resource to provide clarity on baptism, a topic we mention in our Bible study, *I Have Decided*. We believe that baptism by immersion is a step of obedience every Christian should take after they accept Christ. However, we do not believe it is a primary doctrine or one that affects an individual's salvation. There are many different views on why to baptize, who to baptize, and how to baptize. Having the "wrong" one will not affect your eternal destiny—"for by grace you have been saved through faith" (Ephesians 2:8). But we do believe it is important to base all our beliefs on Scripture, so we would like to show you from Scripture why we ascribe to the mode of baptism that we do. We pray this short study is helpful and encouraging to you!

The Next Step

Welcome to this three-day study on baptism! Maybe you're wondering, "When should someone get baptized?" or even, "What IS baptism?" Well, I'm so glad you asked! For the next few days, we get to explore what God's Word tells us about His purpose for baptism.

Take a moment and write down what you know about baptism.

There are a lot of different opinions about baptism, so sometimes it is hard to know what opinions are "right." But what we do know is that God's Word is truth and is always right. So let's look at what we can learn about baptism from the Bible!

Read **Acts 2:36-41**. What is happening in these verses?

This account occurred on the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came to live in the hearts of those who had turned from their sin and trusted in Jesus to save them. As the apostle Peter was preaching, thousands of people realized they needed Jesus to save them from their sins!

What did Peter tell these people who wanted to follow Jesus? (Look at verse 38.)

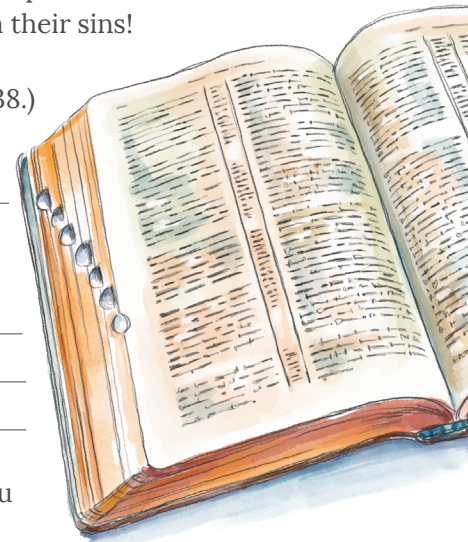
_____ **and be** _____

How have you heard people describe being saved and following Jesus?

Do you think Peter was saying you have to repent AND be baptized before you can be saved? Explain your answer.

Read **Ephesians 2:8-9**. How are we saved?

We are saved when we put our faith in Jesus, knowing that only He can take away our sin. Nothing else saves—not works or "good" things we do.



Because we know that salvation comes through faith alone, we know that baptism doesn't save us. So why is baptism important? Well, let's look at another true account from the Bible.

Read **Acts 8:26-35**. Describe what is happening in these verses.

Philip, one of the apostles, was traveling when he met a man from Ethiopia. This man was reading part of what is in our Bibles and known as the book of Isaiah. Philip asked the man if he understood what he was reading, but the man responded, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" So Philip went and sat with the man in his chariot and explained salvation through Jesus (verse 35). As a result, the Ethiopian man believed in Jesus!

Read **Acts 8:36-39**. What did the man ask Philip to do?

As we saw in the two accounts we looked at today, baptism is something people associated with the decision to place their faith in Jesus. These passages show us that baptism is the next step to take AFTER a person repents of their sin and asks Jesus to save them.

Baptism is **the next step of obedience**
for a Christian after they have repented from
their sin and believed in Jesus.

If someone asked you when to get baptized, what would you tell them after our study of God's Word today?

Today as you finish your study, pray and thank God for saving you from your sin. Ask Him to help you learn more as you study His Word.

The Significance of Baptism

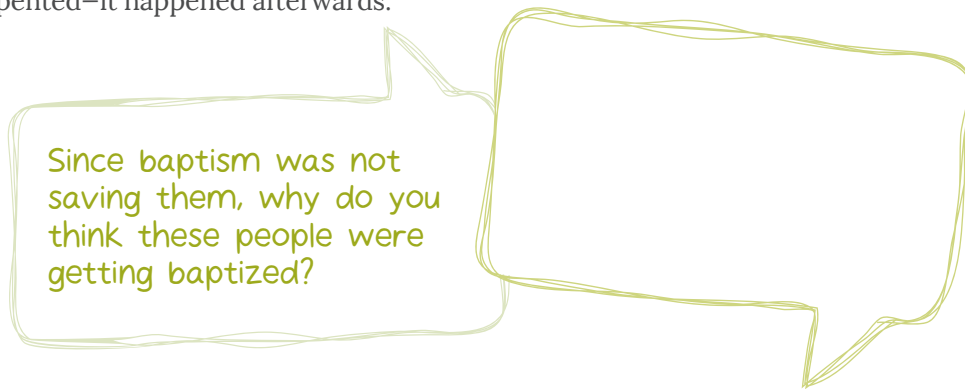
Now that we've seen what the Bible says about WHEN to get baptized, let's talk about WHAT baptism shows or symbolizes for a Christian—both on the inside and the outside.

Have you ever said something like, "I can do a handstand!" and your friends say, "Prove it! Show us your handstand!" Maybe it hasn't happened quite like that, but you get the idea. When we say something is true about ourselves, we often show people physical ways they can see that claim is true. Like doing a handstand.

Read [Matthew 3:1-6](#).

What do these verses tell us was true about the people who were getting baptized?

John the Baptist was a preacher who told people to repent of their sin because the Messiah—Jesus—was coming. John wanted the people to know that every person needed to confess their sin in order to be part of the kingdom of heaven. So John told them "Repent!" Once these people had confessed and turned away from their sins, John baptized them. The baptism didn't happen before they repented—it happened afterwards.



John encouraged these believing people to be baptized publicly in order to show the change that had taken place inside their hearts. By taking the step of baptism, they were showing that they had turned from their sin!

Baptism is an outward action that shows a person's inward repentance from sin, belief in Jesus, and desire to obediently follow Him.

Now look up the passages below and write down what each one compares baptism to.

[Romans 6:3-4](#) » _____

[Colossians 2:12](#) » _____

[Galatians 3:26-27](#) » _____

Each of these passages speaks of baptism as something that associates, or identifies, us with Christ! The picture of being “buried with Christ” reminds us of the sacrifice Jesus made to pay for our sins as well as our spiritual “death” to sin. These verses tell us we are then raised up—as Christ rose from the grave—to spiritually walk in newness of life. When we “put on Christ” through accepting His gift of new life by salvation, we are forever identified with Jesus Christ as His children. Baptism is a picture of sin losing its power and Christ giving us life. Instead of being owned by sin, we now belong to Christ! Wow! Isn’t that such an amazing picture?

Baptism identifies us with Christ.

All of the passages you just looked up also use phrases like “with him” and “into Christ.” Go read back through each passage one more time and look for these phrases.

What do you think all of these positional words like “with,” “into,” and “put on” mean?

Look up **Ephesians 4:4-6** and write it out in the space below.

What word is repeated over and over in these verses? “One”! When we are saved, we are brought INTO the family of God. When we are baptized, it shows that we are alive IN Christ. When we go to church, we spend time WITH the body of Christ. We become ONE and are UNIFIED in Christ!

Baptism is one way we let everyone know
that we are part of the unified group of people that
Jesus has saved—Christ’s body, the church.

Today as you pray, thank Jesus for the ability to show that you belong to Him through baptism. Ask Him to help you dwell in unity with the body of Christ.

What Does Baptism Look Like?

Have you ever been to a service at a church where baptisms were happening? Maybe you saw a pastor or elder covering people's noses with a handkerchief and dunking them in a pool of water. Or maybe you saw a pastor or elder dip their hand in a bowl of water and sprinkle it on the heads of people standing up at the front of the church.

Describe a baptism you have seen.

Different churches do baptism differently sometimes. So where can we find out what baptism is supposed to look like? If you said, "God's Word," you're right!

Read **Mark 1:9-11**. Describe where John was and what happened.

The Gospel of Mark tells the same story we read in Matthew 3 yesterday. John the Baptist was down at the Jordan River, preaching repentance of sin and baptizing in the river, when Jesus came and asked John to baptize Him. Matthew 3 tells us that John first protested, telling Jesus that He should baptize John instead. But Jesus again told John to baptize Him, and John obeyed.

Then the Bible tells us that Jesus came "up out of the water" of the Jordan River. So John probably put Jesus under the water and then raised Him up out of it.

That is the description we have of Jesus' baptism, but are there any other examples of what baptism should look like? Yes! In fact, we already looked at this next passage in the first lesson.

Read **Acts 8:26-39**. Describe what happens in this passage. How was the Ethiopian eunuch baptized when he believed in Jesus?

Again the Bible describes going "down into the water" and coming "up out of the water." So it seems like they got pretty wet, right?

Describe what you imagine baptism looks like based on the passages we have studied.

The examples of baptism we see in Scripture indicate that the person being baptized goes down into (immersed) and comes up out of a pool or body of water.

Before we finish this study on baptism, I would like to encourage you with one final passage. Before Jesus left this earth, He told His disciples about a special gift He would send them to help them spread the gospel.

Read **Acts 1:1-5**. What did Jesus say to His disciples in this passage? (Hint: look at verse 5.)

Jesus told His disciples that although John the Baptist baptized people in water, Jesus would send the Holy Spirit to “baptize” their hearts! Just as the physical action of baptism is a testimony of our faith to those around us, God’s Holy Spirit coming to live inside of us at salvation is a testimony to us that we are God’s children and have Jesus with us always!

How does knowing God’s Spirit lives inside you encourage you today?

Today as you pray, thank God for baptism and the testimony of faith that it is. If you are a Christian and have not been baptized, ask God for the courage to follow and obey Him by taking this next step.





JOIN OUR COMMUNITY
TO CONNECT WITH
FELLOW JOY-CHOOSERS!

[NOTCONSUMED.COM](https://www.NOTCONSUMED.COM)

[STORE.NOTCONSUMED.COM](https://www.STORE.NOTCONSUMED.COM)

YOUTH



Hello, friends!

We're so happy you're here. We wanted to provide this additional resource to provide clarity on baptism, a topic we mention in our Bible study, *I Have Decided*. We believe that baptism by immersion is a step of obedience every Christian should take after they accept Christ. However, we do not believe it is a primary doctrine or one that affects an individual's salvation. There are many different views on why to baptize, who to baptize, and how to baptize. Having the "wrong" one will not affect your eternal destiny—"for by grace you have been saved through faith" (Ephesians 2:8). But we do believe it is important to base all our beliefs on Scripture, so we would like to show you from Scripture why we ascribe to the mode of baptism that we do. We pray this short study is helpful and encouraging to you!

Welcome to this three-day study on baptism! Maybe you're wondering, "When should someone get baptized?" or even, "What IS baptism?" Well, I'm so glad you asked! For the next few days, we get to explore what God's Word tells us about His purpose for baptism.

Take a moment and write down what you know about baptism.

There are a lot of different opinions about baptism, so sometimes it is hard to know what opinions are "right." But what we do know is that God's Word is truth and is always right. So let's look at what we can learn about baptism from the Bible!

Read *Acts 2: 36-41*. What is happening in these verses?

This account occurred on the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came to live in the hearts of those who had turned from their sin and trusted in Jesus to save them. As the apostle Peter was preaching, thousands of people realized they needed Jesus to save them from their sins!

What did Peter tell these people who wanted to follow Jesus? (Look at verse 38.)

_____ *and be* _____

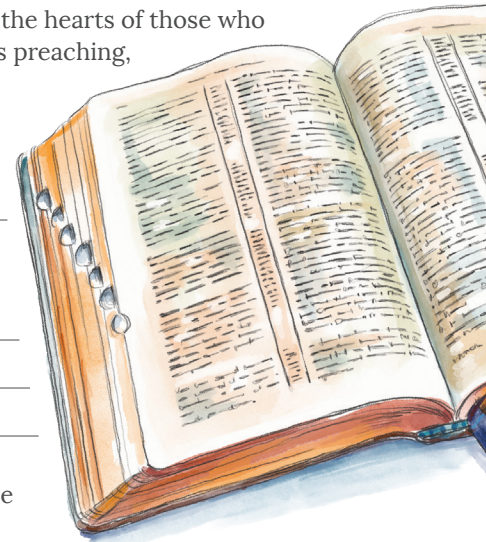
How have you heard people describe being saved and following Jesus?

Do you think Peter was saying you have to repent AND be baptized before you can be saved? Explain your answer.

Read *Ephesians 2: 8-9*. How are we saved?

We are saved when we put our faith in Jesus, knowing that only He can take away our sin. Nothing else saves—not works or "good" things we do.

Because we know that salvation comes through faith alone, we know that baptism doesn't save us. So why is baptism important? Well, let's look at another true account from the Bible.



Read *Acts 8:26-35*. Describe what is happening in these verses.

Philip, one of the apostles, was traveling when he met a man from Ethiopia. This man was reading part of what is in our Bibles and known as the book of Isaiah. Philip asked the man if he understood what he was reading, but the man responded, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" So Philip went and sat with the man in his chariot and explained salvation through Jesus (verse 35). As a result, the Ethiopian man believed in Jesus!

Read *Acts 8:36-39*. What did the man ask Philip to do?

As we saw in the two accounts we looked at today, baptism is something people associated with the decision to place their faith in Jesus. These passages show us that baptism is the next step to take AFTER a person repents of their sin and asks Jesus to save them.

Baptism is *the next step of obedience*
for a Christian after they have repented from
their sin and believed in Jesus.

If someone asked you when to get baptized, what would you tell them after our study of God's Word today?

Today as you finish your study, pray and thank God for saving you from your sin. Ask Him to help you learn more as you study His Word.

The Significance of Baptism

Now that we've seen what the Bible says about WHEN to get baptized, let's talk about WHAT baptism shows or symbolizes for a Christian—both on the inside and the outside.

Have you ever said something like, "I can do a handstand!" and your friends say, "Prove it! Show us your handstand!" Maybe it hasn't happened quite like that, but you get the idea. When we say something is true about ourselves, we often show people physical ways they can see that claim is true. Like doing a handstand.

Read *Matthew 3:1-6*. What do these verses tell us was true about the people who were getting baptized?

John the Baptist was a preacher who told people to repent of their sin because the Messiah—Jesus—was coming. John wanted the people to know that every person needed to confess their sin in order to be part of the kingdom of heaven. So John told them "Repent!" Once these people had confessed and turned away from their sins, John baptized them. The baptism didn't happen before they repented—it happened afterwards.

Since baptism was not saving them, what do you think these people were doing by getting baptized?

Depending on the Bible translation you use, the wording of this passage might seem confusing. In translations where the phrase "confessing their sins" comes after the mention of baptism, the word "confessing" clues us in to what this means. While "confessed" refers to something in the past, "confessing" or "as they confessed" refers to an ongoing event. In this passage, there is continual confession from the large crowd going on while baptisms are also happening. This was a long process because of the many people there, but once someone had confessed, they were then baptized!

John encouraged these believing people to be baptized publicly to show the change that had taken place inside their hearts. By taking the step of baptism, they were showing that they had turned from their sin!

Baptism is an outward action that shows a person's inward repentance from sin, belief in Jesus, and desire to obediently follow Him.

Now look up the passages below and write down what each one compares baptism to.

Romans »»
6:3-4

Colossians »»
2:12

Galatians »»
3:26-27

Each of these passages speaks of baptism as something that associates, or identifies, us with Christ! The picture of being “buried with Christ” reminds us of the sacrifice Jesus made to pay for our sins as well as our spiritual “death” to sin. These verses tell us we are then raised up—as Christ rose from the grave—to spiritually walk in newness of life. When we “put on Christ” through accepting His gift of new life by salvation, we are forever identified with Jesus Christ as His children. Baptism is a picture of sin losing its power and of Christ giving us life. Instead of being owned by sin, we now belong to Christ! Wow! Isn’t that such an amazing picture?

Baptism identifies us with Christ.

All of the passages you just looked up also use phrases like “with him” and “into Christ.” Go read back through each passage one more time and look for these phrases.

What do you think all of these positional words like “with,” “into,” and “put on” mean?

Look up *Ephesians 4:4-6* and write it out in the space below.

What word is repeated over and over in these verses? “One”! When we are saved, we are brought INTO the family of God. When we are baptized, it shows that we are alive IN Christ. When we go to church, we spend time WITH the body of Christ. We become ONE and are UNIFIED in Christ!

Baptism is one way we *let everyone know*
that we are part of the unified group of people that
Jesus has saved—Christ’s body, the church.

Today as you pray, thank Jesus for the ability to show that you belong to Him through baptism. Ask Him to help you dwell in unity with the body of Christ.

What Does Baptism Look Like?

Have you ever been to a service at a church where baptisms were happening? Maybe you saw a pastor or elder covering people's noses with a handkerchief and dunking them in a pool of water. Or maybe you saw a pastor or elder dip their hand in a bowl of water and sprinkle it on the heads of people standing up at the front of the church.

Describe a baptism you have seen.

Different churches do baptism differently sometimes. So where can we find out what baptism is supposed to look like? If you said, "God's Word," you're right!

Read *Mark 1:9-11*. Describe where John was and what happened.

The Gospel of Mark tells the same story we read in Matthew 3 yesterday. John the Baptist was down at the Jordan River, preaching repentance of sin and baptizing in the river, when Jesus came and asked John to baptize Him. Matthew 3 tells us that John first protested, telling Jesus that He should baptize John instead. But Jesus again told John to baptize Him, and John obeyed.

Then the Bible tells us that Jesus came "up out of the water" of the Jordan River. So John probably put Jesus under the water and then raised Him up out of it.

That is the description we have of Jesus' baptism, but are there any other examples of what baptism should look like? Yes! In fact, we already looked at this next passage in the first lesson.

Read *Acts 8:26-39*. Describe what happens in this passage. How was the Ethiopian eunuch baptized when he believed in Jesus?

Again the Bible describes going "down into the water" and coming "up out of the water." So it seems like they got pretty wet, right?

Describe what you imagine baptism looks like based on the passages we have studied.

The examples of baptism we see in Scripture indicate that the person being baptized goes down into (immersed) and comes up out of a pool or body of water.

Before we finish this study on baptism, I would like to encourage you with one final passage. Before Jesus left this earth, He told His disciples about a special gift He would send them to help them spread the gospel.

Read *Acts 1:1-5*. What did Jesus say to His disciples in this passage? (*Hint: look at verse 5.*)

Jesus told His disciples that although John the Baptist baptized people in water, Jesus would send the Holy Spirit to “baptize” their hearts! Just as the physical action of baptism is a testimony of our faith to those around us, God’s Holy Spirit coming to live inside of us at salvation is a testimony to us that we are God’s children and have Jesus with us always!

How does knowing God’s Spirit lives inside you encourage you today?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Today as you pray, thank God for baptism and the testimony of faith that it is. If you are a Christian and have not been baptized, ask God for the courage to follow and obey Him by taking this next step.





JOIN OUR COMMUNITY
TO CONNECT WITH
FELLOW JOY-CHOOSERS!

NOTCONSUMED.COM

STORE.NOTCONSUMED.COM