

BAPTISM



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Outline

Session 1

Letter to a Friend
Understanding the Gospel
Correcting Common Myths
What is Baptism?

Session 2

Living the Christian Life
Sharing our Stories
Instructions for Baptism



Understanding the Gospel



Romans Road

Romans 3:23 All have _____ and _____
_____ of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23(a) For the wages of sin is
_____.

Romans 5:8 God demonstrates his love for us in
this: while we were still _____, Christ
_____ for us.

Romans 6:23(b) but the gift of God is
_____ _____ in Christ Jesus our
Lord.

Romans 10:13 For _____ calls on the
name of the Lord will be saved.

Romans 8:1 There is no _____
for those who are in Christ Jesus.



Correcting Common Myths

Baptism is not a symbol of a _____
_____. Perfection will never come this
side of heaven.

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining for what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:12-14

Baptism is not only for _____ Christians.
It is for ALL Christians.

When people asked what to do after receiving the message Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Acts 2:38

Baptism is not a means of _____.
Baptism is a public announcement of

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9



What is Baptism? 4 Things

1. A _____ of personal faith in Christ (Acts 2:38, 41)

Baptism is an _____ and _____ sign of an _____ and _____ change that God has **already** worked in a believer's heart. Significantly, baptism always follows upon the personal confession of one's faith. This explains why we do not practice infant baptism, as a baby cannot have placed their faith in Christ.

2. An expression of our _____ with Christ (Romans 6:3-4)

Baptism _____ our spiritual union and identification with the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Being _____ in water symbolizes having died to our sin; and being _____ of the water that we have been raised to brand new life in Christ.



3. An indication of our _____ to Christ.

Being baptized is an act of _____ to his commands and _____ to his lordship.

Jesus always qualified a true love for him by his willingness to _____ what he said. (Luke 6:46-49; John 14:15, 23-24; 1 John 5:2-3)

4. A look forward to our _____ with Christ.

In baptism, a person says, “I’m going somewhere.” The believer has an ultimate hope of being with Christ. (Philippians 3:13-14; Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 John 3:2-3)



Preparing Your Testimony

Using the questions below as a guide, describe the journey that you have been on with God.

1. What was your life like before you knew Jesus?

2. What and/or who did God use to bring you into a relationship with Jesus?

3. How has your life changed since you became a Christian?

4. Is there a verse or two that have been especially meaningful to you in this journey?



Living the Christian Life

Getting baptized does not mean that you have arrived, and it certainly is not a magical act which will make you unable to sin. It is a choice to publicly proclaim your allegiance to Jesus Christ. If you are going to be serious about your faith, the following three areas will help you grow in Christian maturity.

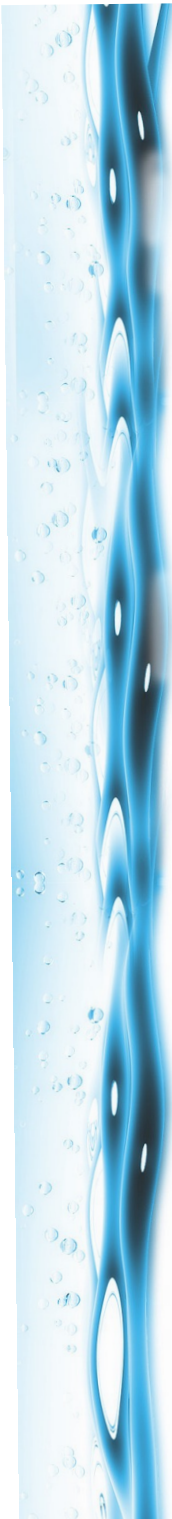
1. Spend time with God.

Read your _____. The Scripture is God's Word and instructs us for a life of good works (2 Timothy 3:15-17) and holiness (Psalm 119:9; Hebrews 4:12).

_____ regularly. God wants us to share our lives with him, praise him, bring our requests to him, and so much more (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

2. Spend time with others.

Public _____. These times together equip and encourage us to face the days ahead. It is also a time when every age, every nation, and every demographic come together to worship one God. (Hebrews 10:24-25).



Grow in _____. Jesus spent time with his 12 disciples. He also had three people in his inner circle. Who are your travel companions on this spiritual journey?

Love your _____. The only way those with whom you work and play will hear about Jesus is if someone tells them. (Romans 10:13-15).

3. Serve Others

One of the best ways we can grow in our understanding of God's love is to serve other people, whether those in our community, people at church, or others in our social circles.

God first showed his love for us by sending his Son (John 3:16; Romans 5:8), and we can love others by investing our time, talents, and treasures.

The Holy Spirit helps us live this type of life.

_____ = help in times of trouble (John 14:16)

_____ = help in life's decisions (John 14:26)

_____ = guidance to do what is right

(John 16:8)



Instructions for Baptism

1. Meet in the designated room (location will be given during session #2) dressed for baptism at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the worship service. Service times are 9:15 am and 11:00 am.
2. Clothing:
 - Please wear dark clothing with minimal graphics (T-shirts and shorts or pants) preferably over a bathing suit.
 - Please do not wear sleeveless tops
 - Remember to bring a complete change of dry clothes and a towel.
 - Bring a plastic bag for your wet clothes.
3. Remember to bring your written Testimony.
4. Invite your friends and family to witness this important event in your journey with Christ!

