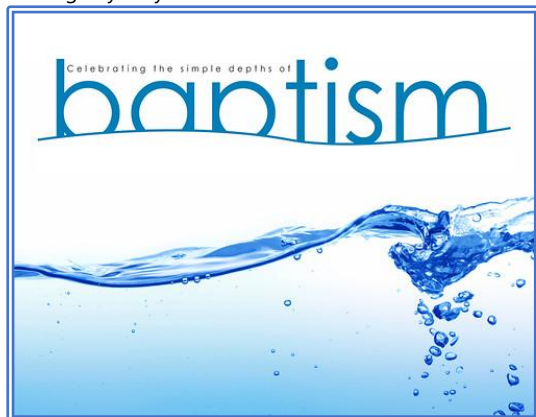




A Study of Biblical

BAPTISM

*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them*

*in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."*

Matthew 28:19-20

Study #2 – GETTING READY FOR BAPTISM

When you read the stories in the book of Acts of people being baptized (refer to last week's chart), there were always certain things happening that prepared them for the act of baptism. No one ever received baptism without some conditions being met that led them to that moment. If not, baptism would be no different than taking a swim or a bath. But baptism was always a significant action of a person's coming into a saved relationship with Christ.

THE HEART OF THE BAPTIZED

The human's response to God's plan of salvation is primarily a condition of the heart or soul of a person. Consider:

- **A** _____ **Heart** *Matthew 22:36-38*
- **An** _____ **Heart** *John 14:15*
- **A** _____ **Heart** *Mark 16:16*
- **A** _____ **Heart** *Acts 2:37-38*
- **A** _____ **Heart** *Romans 10:9-10*
- **A** _____ **Heart** *Galatians 2:20*
- **A** _____ **Heart** *Matthew 18:2-4*

While no one person is ever perfect in all these qualities, there must be some indication that being baptized is a spiritual act resulting in a spiritual transformation. Baptism without a spiritual heart is not the biblical baptism of Jesus!

THE CANDIDATE FOR BAPTISM

*"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both **Lord and Christ**.' When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other disciples, 'Brothers, what shall we do?'"*
Acts 2:36

1. **The Candidate must accept and confess Christ as** _____ (this is the impact of faith)
"Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' The eunuch answered, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.' Then, Philip baptized him."
Acts 8:36-38
2. **The Candidate must accept and confess Christ as** _____ (the intent of repentance)
"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." *Romans 10:9-10*
3. **The Candidate must be ready to be a** _____ **of Jesus** (follower, student, learner) and live with intention to become more like Christ (maturity, growth, commitment, discipleship)
Again, read the Great Commission and our theme scripture at the top of this page.

THE MODE OF BAPTISM

Our English word "baptism" is transliterated from the Greek word "baptizo." When that word is properly translated, it means to dip or immerse. In non-Christian literature it is translated "plunge, sink, drench, or overwhelm." If it had been translated directly it would be probably have been "immersion" and therefore would be no mis-applications!

- Baptism uses _____ as a means of burial and a symbol of cleansing. *1 Peter 3:20-22*
- It is mentioned in Scripture that "they" went **down into** and **came up out of** the place of water. *Acts 8:38-39*
- Immersion is implied when John the Baptist was baptizing where there was _____ of water. *John 3:23*
- The clincher! Bible descriptions like "burial", "buried with him", "as Christ was raised..." *Colossians 2:12*