



WORSHIP

BAPTISM

Objective for Learning: To understand why baptism is an important step of obedience for every believer.

Objective for Living: To ensure that baptism is a decision you make as a part of your walk with Christ.

Objective for Reproducing: To be able to have the confidence and biblical understanding to go and baptize others.

Scriptures for Baptism:

- Acts 2:37-38
- Colossians 2:12
- Galatians 3:27
- Matthew 28:19-20
- Acts 16:31-33
- Romans 6:3-5
- 1 Corinthians 12:13
- 1 Peter 3:21

How do each of these Scriptures help to **define** and **illuminate** what baptism is and why it is important?

Hearing (Discussion Points and Questions):

Overview:

Baptism is a public declaration and act of obedience that represents a believer's move from death to life in Christ. Baptism is the "I'm all in" response to the good news of Jesus Christ. Similar to when someone decides to get married after counting the costs, they willingly forsake all other people and put on the wedding ring. This demonstrates their true and public commitment to their spouse. In the same way, water baptism is a public demonstration of the inward commitment to forsake all others, and follow Christ

alone. Baptism does not save us, but is a symbolic act in which we are buried with Christ and as He rose from the dead, we too rise up from baptism in newness of life.

Questions for Learning and Living:

- Since baptism is not a requirement for salvation, why is it such a big deal?
- What happens spiritually when we get baptized?
- Do you have any reservations about being baptized if you have not been already? If so, what are they?

Questions for Reproducing:

- How would you describe the importance of baptism to someone who has not been baptized yet?
- Where can baptisms take place? (See Acts 8:26-38)
- Baptizing others is not something reserved for pastors or the spiritual elite. We are called in Matthew 28:19-20 to go and baptize! With this in mind, are there any reservations you have about baptizing others? If so, talk through those and address those issues so you can be ready to baptize someone if the opportunity arises!

Doing (Implementation and Application):

- What is Jesus saying to you about this?
- How are you going to respond? Look at your personal discipleship assessment.
 - Give 1-3 concrete action steps that you are going to do this week to help you take the next step of learning, living, or reproducing in this area.
- Choose one of the Scriptures that really impacted you and commit to memorizing it this week.