

Reflection Questions October 22, 2023 Through the Waters 1 Peter 3:18-22

We are thrilled to witness the baptisms of 5 members of the church this morning! And it is appropriate as we see these individual acts of obedience to ask ourselves a few questions, "What does baptism point to?" And, "What does it mean that baptism is a, 'means of grace' for the church. And finally, "Am I following Christ according to the declaration I made at my baptism?"

Reflection Questions:

- 1. How does witnessing a baptism impact the church as a whole? Why is it considered a "means of grace"?
- 2. What is the significance of baptism as a step of obedience to Christ's command? Why is it important for believers to publicly declare their faith through baptism?
- 3. How does baptism serve as a symbol of the believer's new life in Christ and their identification with His death, burial, and resurrection?
- 4. According to Matthew 28:18-19, what role does baptism play in making disciples? Why is it important to understand that baptism doesn't make one a disciple but rather accompanies discipleship?
- 5. In what ways can being Christ's disciple be challenging or difficult? How can we find encouragement in knowing that Jesus also suffered for our sake?
- 6. Discuss the concept that baptism corresponds to passing through God's judgment and appeals to God for a good conscience through faith in Jesus' resurrection.
- 7. As believers, how can witnessing baptisms renew our commitment to live as disciples of Jesus?