



A DISCIPLE'S JOURNEY

WE EXIST TO MAKE DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES

Step 2

Believer's Baptism by Immersion

Acts 2:38
Romans 6:4

Once you have received Christ as personal Lord and Savior, you are a Christian. You start out as an infant in Christ, childlike in your faith, but you aren't meant to stay there; you should continue to grow. There are three stages of discipleship that we grow into: Spiritual Child, Spiritual Adults, and Spiritual Parents.

Spiritual Child – The spiritual child is growing in faith, forming new habits, and rooting themselves in God's eternal Word. Spiritual children are often characterized as self-centered and during this stage they need to connect with other believers to walk with them and help them grow.

Spiritual Adult – The spiritual adult hits a turning point in their spiritual maturity as their view shifts from that of self to that of God, His glory, and His mission. This stage is often characterized with a passion for mission and a desire to serve as they are equipped for ministry and continue to grow spiritually.

Spiritual Parent – The spiritual parent is a disciple who has made a disciple. They focus on the greater mission of making disciples who make disciples.

Believing and receiving Christ as your personal Lord and Savior is the BEST thing in the entire world! Often, however, that's where people leave it. They make a decision and then stay right where they are. That's not what obedience to God, or discipleship, looks like according to Scripture.

“Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.”
– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” – Acts 2:38

When you believe and receive the good news of Jesus, you are called to be obedient to what God asks of us in His Word. You are called to live out and identified as one who has given their life to Jesus. After receiving Christ, we see new Christians in the early church being baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The word “baptizo” means to “dive under” or to “immerse”. Baptism is the immersion in water of an obedient believer and is done in a manner of being united to the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Baptism by immersion provides us with a beautiful picture of dying to ourselves and rising again in new life!

Read

Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” - Acts 2:38

Reflect

1. When should someone take the step of believer’s baptism by immersion?
2. Have you taken the step of believer’s baptism by immersion? If not, what obstacles or hindrances are keeping you from being obedient to Scripture?

Read

Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. - Romans 6:3-4

Reflect

1. What is the purpose of baptism?
2. What does it mean to be identified as a follower of Jesus Christ?
3. How does the image of burial form and change the way you view your relationship with Christ and other Christ followers?

