

Fresh Life - Part 1

Now That I Believe

Big Picture

Water baptism is the first instruction that God has given to those who have put their trust in Him. It's an outward sign of internal death and resurrection of our spirits, it's how we identify with Jesus and learn to be obedient to Him.

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit...

Matthew 28

Discussion

Read Colossians 2:12

After we are make Jesus the Lord of our life, our instructions are simple, get baptized, but there are reasons that people don't take this step.

1. Failure to understand the importance of baptism.
For some people they've never been told how important it is to be baptized.
Do you remember having baptism explained to you? When was the first time you heard about it?

Read Acts 2:37

2. It's more of a TRADITION than something that is in God's Word.
Did you have an experience as a child or where told that you were baptized as a baby?
How do you feel that is different than water baptism that takes place in the Bible and in churches today?

Read Acts 8:12

3. Pride.
Baptism takes a lot of humility. You are going public with your expression of faith and telling the world that you once were dirty and dead, but through Jesus you are now alive and clean. If you have been baptized did you struggle with concerns about what others would think? We're they valid or where people more excited to celebrate with you than figure out your past?

Read Acts 8:36-38

4. Salvation has not truly happened
Salvation happens when you surrender your life to Jesus and commit to life for Him.
Have you fully surrendered to Jesus?

Next Steps

Read Matthew 3:16

Jesus modeled baptism for us so that we could learn to walk in step with the Father's will. If you have never been baptized, or you were baptized at a young age because of tradition, you are invited to experience full baptism at church. You can sign up online or just come next week and experience the power of making an out loud statement about your commitment to follow Christ.

Pray

Thank God for the power of the cross and for the resurrection and life that He offers believers. Dedicate your life to following Him and His instructions that He gives in the Bible. Tell Him how much you love Him and how you desire to show others His power in your life.