

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Message: **BELIEF & BAPTISM**

August 11, 2019



Connect (20min)

- What is your favorite Water Activity? What is your least favorite Water Activity?
 - What is one thing you are Thankful to God for this past week?
 - What is one area or opportunity in your life this week that you need God's help?
- Take a couple minutes as a group to respond with thanks to God and prayer for one another.

Sunday Message Feedback (40min)

*Speaker: Shawn Vandop – Lead Pastor.

1. Your Baptism Highlights:

If you've been Baptized, when & where did yours take place? Describe your experience in 1min or less.

2. Sunday Message Recap: Pastor Shawn taught on BAPTISM -- *Belief Then Baptism*

a. Do you have any questions or feedback based on his message, or Baptism in general?

Baptism is an outward symbolic act of something powerful that has happened inside a person's heart. It is a marker!

b. Our next Baptism Celebration is Sun. September 8th during the Sunday morning services.

*Apply online www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism

3. BAPTISM Basics

*BAPTISM publicly and personally identifies us with Jesus Christ.

*Baptism is an outward symbolic act of something powerful that has happened inside a person's heart.

*Baptism is a public declaration of a new association illustrated through death and resurrection.

Baptism declares to the world that we were dead, we were buried but now we are alive!

*'Baptiso/Baptisma' is a common Greek word used to describe *washing, dipping/dunking (clothes in dye), immersion, drowning, sinking (ship)...*

A. Baptism is PERSONAL

- When you get baptized you are being baptized into Christ's death. Read [Romans 6:3-4](#)

- When you get baptized you are made alive in Christ. [Galatians 3:26-29](#); [Colossians 2:12-13](#)

*How does Baptism connect with and reflect Christ's Resurrection?

*How has Baptism personally impacted you or others that you know?

B. Baptism is PUBLIC - Following Jesus is a personal decision but it was never meant to a private decision.

- Jesus set the example by getting baptized in one of the most public places of his day – the Jordan River.

- When you get Baptized you are publicly standing with and for JESUS! Read [Matthew 10:32-33](#)

*Can you think of some other examples of outward/public symbols that reflect an inward (personal) commitment or experience?

*How have you seen, or how could you see Baptisms act as a public witness in our day?

C. Baptism is a Command of Christ and a PRIORITY for every Christ Follower.

- It's a command of Jesus in Scripture. - It was a common practice of the early-church in Scripture.
- Early Christians almost always believed & got baptized in the same day.
- Read [Matthew 28:19-20](#); [Acts 2:36-41](#); [Acts 8:12](#) - www.openbible.info/topics/baptism

***Why do you think God chose water as the element used in Baptism?**

***What promise is He making in Baptism that we are choosing to believe and receive in our lives?**

***What is the prerequisite for Baptism?**

***What message does your being Baptized convey that words alone cannot? (Col.2:12)**

***Why do you think many Christians wait a long time before getting Baptized?**

4. Since Jesus had nothing to repent of, what was the point of His Baptism?

Read [Mark 1:4-11](#); [John 1:29-31](#); [Hebrews 4:14-16](#);

5. Reference Point

*How can Baptism be an encouraging and motivational reference point for Christ followers in their ongoing journey of sanctification and discipleship (being made whole and following Christ)?

Application & Prayer (20min)

***Challenge:** Read & Pray through one Psalm each day in August.

***In Response to our Study/Discussion – how can we Pray for you today?**

> *healing, provision, protection, power, personal transformation, accountability, outreach opportunities...*

Resources

www.openbible.info/topics/baptism

[What is Water Baptism and Why do we do it?](#)

[Is Baptism Necessary for Salvation?](#)

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Christian-baptism.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/infant-baptism.html>

Announcements

SUMMER CONNECT GROUP

Wednesdays, July 31-August 28. 7pm-8:30pm – Main Street Café. Drop-In Group. Leader: Eryn Moore

*Regular **Life Groups** begin mid-September.

NEXT STEPS

Sunday, August 18. 12:15pm-1:30pm. Conference Room A. Lunch & Childcare provided. Leader: Eryn Moore

<https://mainstreetchurch.ca/nextsteps>

FALL KICKOFF & BAPTISM CELEBRATION

Sunday, September 8. 9am & 10:45am Services.

<https://mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism>

PRAYER SUMMIT (Supper & Summit)

September 29 / October 27 / November 24

5pm-Dinner (Conf. Hall/Chapel/Café). 6pm-Summit (Auditorium/Tykes)

HEARING GOD

Mondays (5). Sept. 23, 30 Oct. 7, 21, 28. 7pm-8:30pm. Chapel/Café. *Shawn leading.

PARTNERSHIP CLASS (Coffee & Dessert)

Sun. October 6. 6pm-8pm. Chapel/Café/Rm.101 (Childcare)

SET FREE Retreat

October 18-19. Friday 5:30pm-9pm / Saturday 9am-7pm. Chapel/Hall/Café/Conf. Room A & C

EMPOWER Retreat

November 29-30. Friday 5:30pm-9pm / Saturday 9am-7pm. Chapel/Hall/Café/Conf. Room A & C