

devoted

baptism sunday

CELEBRATION OF NEW LIFE

- We have baptisms in both services in our main auditorium
- Spontaneous baptisms *after each auditorium worship service* are also available today
- John 10:10 – *Jesus said: I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

THE GREAT COMMISSION & BAPTISM – MATTHEW 28:18-20

- ▶ Note the clear, biblical progression

- ① _____ of the _____
(see Romans 10:17)
- ② _____ New _____ in Christ
(see John 1:11-12)

Prayer of Salvation – Lord Jesus, I need You in my life. You died on the cross for me... in my place. So I receive You by faith this day as my Lord and Savior. Please come into my life. Forgive me of my sins. Adopt me into the forever family of God. With Your ongoing help, it is my desire to walk with You from this day on. Thank You for the free gift of salvation. Amen.

- ③ _____
(see Acts 2:38, 41; 8:12; 9:18; 16:29-33)

- ④ _____-Oriented _____
(see Matthew 28:20)

WHAT IS BAPTISM? (Romans 6:4)

- ▶ The _____ of a believing person _____ water
- Greek word "battizw" (baptize) = to dip under
- Baptism symbolizes cleansing, death to our "old self" & raising to newness of life

WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED? (Galatians 3:26-27)

- ▶ To follow the _____ & _____ of Christ.

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED? (Acts 2:38)

- ▶ _____ who have _____ their _____ in Christ

WHEN SHOULD SOMEONE BE BAPTIZED? (Acts 8:36,38)

- ▶ _____
 - If you have trusted Jesus Christ as Lord & Savior, but never taken the obedient step of believer's baptism... be baptized today... RIGHT NOW!



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lifegroup questions

Prayer

Begin your time together by thanking God for all the great baptism stories about new life in Christ that were presented on Sunday. Halleluiah! Thank You, Father, for the amazing gifts of forgiveness, salvation and life transformation in Jesus!

My Story

Have 2-4 people share about their baptism stories. Describe the process you went through as you decided to follow Jesus in being baptized.

Digging Deep

- 1) **Read Matthew 3:13-17.** If Jesus never sinned, and John's baptism was a baptism of repentance of sin, why did Jesus need to be baptized? What was the significance of the dove descending on Jesus and the voice from heaven?

- 2) **Read Matthew 28:18-20.** Why do you think God insisted that baptism play such a critical role in our faith-walk with Him? Why is it important that believers be baptized "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit?"

- 3) **Read Acts 2:37-41.** On the Day of Pentecost, the Apostle Peter boldly shared the Good News before a huge crowd. Many were "cut to the heart" by his message and clearly asked how they should appropriately respond. Take some time to talk about Peter's response to the crowd's question in verses 38-39.

Digging Deeper

- 4) **Read Acts 8:26-40.** Summarize the story of Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch. Who brought up the subject of baptism, the Ethiopian Eunuch or Philip? What other details are unusual about this encounter, and what lessons can we learn from it?

EXTRA CREDIT – Digging Even Deeper

- 5) **Read Acts 16:12-34.** Summarize the passage and answer the following questions:
 - a. In order for people to get baptized, they first need to come to faith in Christ. This generally happens because a Christian is courageous enough to share the Good News of Christ with them. List the people saved and baptized in this passage.

 - b. Who shared Christ with those who got saved?

 - c. What hardships did those who shared Christ face in the city of Philippi?

 - d. Do you think that Paul and Silas thought it was worth all the suffering to see these people be born again and subsequently baptized? Explain your answer.

 - e. What lessons can be learned from this passage?

Taking it Home

- 6) **Read Romans 6:4 and Galatians 3:26-27.** During the Sunday message, our pastor said that baptism is a symbol of cleansing, death (burial) and resurrection. Galatians 3:27 seems to indicate that baptism symbolizes one more thing. What is that and why is it important?

Praying Together

Share any needs your group may have and pray for one another. Remember to also pray for those who were baptized at Creekside on Sunday! Spiritual warfare often ramps up after a person is baptized.