

New Life

Pastor Don Hunt

November 13, 2022

A. What baptism is not:

1. Not church membership.
2. Not for salvation. (Ephesians 2:8-9; Luke 23:43)
3. Not infant baptism. (Acts 8:26-40)

B. What is baptism?

1. An act of identification with Christ. (Romans 6:3-4)
2. An act of obedience to Christ. (Matthew 28:19)
3. An act of confession of our faith to the world. This is why we place emphasis upon the “public” and not “private” nature of this service.

C. Why do we baptize?

1. Jesus set the example. (Matthew 3:13-17)
2. Jesus commanded His disciples to baptize. (Matthew 28:19)
3. The early church regularly and consistently practiced baptism. (Acts 2:38-41)

Application:

1. Baptism is the first step of discipleship. What's holding you back from being baptized?
2. For those who have been baptized, are you living from your identity in Jesus?

What is baptism?

Throughout the New Testament, people publicly displayed their faith in Christ through baptism (Acts 2:38-41, 8:36-38). They did this as an act of obedience (Matthew 28:19) to identify themselves with Jesus Christ (Romans 6:3-4).

“Baptism is a physical picture of a spiritual truth. Baptism declares your faith, shares Christ’s burial and resurrection, symbolizes your death to your old life, and announces your new life in Christ. It is also a celebration of your inclusion in God’s family.”

Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Life*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2002, p. 120.

Baptism is not a means to gain salvation. Baptism does not make you a member of God’s family; faith in Christ alone does that. Rather, baptism is a public expression of your personal faith.

Baptism is different than church membership. Baptism is a public expression of your commitment to Jesus Christ. Church membership is your commitment to a local family of Christ-followers. The only biblical condition for baptism is that you have placed your faith in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.

If you are interested in being baptized, fill out a Connection Card and check the Baptism box, or contact Aimee Conley in the Church Office at 717.426.1345 or aconley@cbcpc.org.



*Celebrating Their Faith in Jesus Christ Through
Baptism Today:*

9:00 Service:

**Stephanie Fleck
Charlotte Robards
Zoe Hess
Tanya Frey**

10:45 Service:

**Wyatt Elder
Caleb Kendig
Kallie Medich**