

Intro: My baptism was a little unusual! Bible Study at Beach Everyone been baptized?
 Baptism is one of the 7 non-negotiables of the NT Church
 7 Marks Of A New Testament Church
 • Evangelistic Proclamation Genuine Relationships Sacrificial Living
 • Christian Baptism Christ Centered Gatherings
 • Apostolic Teaching Fervent Prayer

Illustration from Acts:

Acts 16:16-34

Page 784

Understand What Baptism Is Physically:

Acts: 16:33 Baptized: Lit = *to immerse; to submerge; to place under*
 Extrabiblical literature: (*cloth, pickles, wine cup*)

Three different methods or “modes” of baptism

- Immersion: baptism by (submersion)
- Affusion (pouring) Acts 2:17: “I will pour out my spirit”
- Aspersion (sprinkling), Heb 12:24: “Sprinkled blood that speaks a better word.”

We practice immersion for at least 4 different reasons:

1. It is literally what the word means
2. It is what Jesus did Mr 1:10 As Jesus was coming up out of the water,
Acts 8:16 Then they went down into the water
3. It is what the Apostles practiced
4. It is the best illustration of what baptism actually means
Ro 6:4 “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.”

** We make exception to that method for a number of different reasons.

Physical or other limitation...It there is a reason why immersion is NOT a good idea....We practice pouring

Understand When Baptism Takes Place:

In the NT it was VERY clear that baptism took place immediately after salvation:

I love the way Dr. Black says it: You got saved and you got wet!

- In Acts 16:33 Jailor: **Immediately:** “that very same hour, instantly!”
Delivered from Prison! You would think...maybe find a better time!
- Acts 8:36 Eunuch: There is some water...what hinders me? Nothing!
- Acts 9:18 Paul: He got up and was baptized!
- When you PERSONALLY make the decision and can understand what you are doing and why. Infant baptism is not what we practice.

Listen, there is not biblical INSTRUCTION or INJUNCTION that demands it...but it is certainly the practice of the Apostles in the NT. Over and over and over again you see baptism taking place as soon as possible...often IMMEDIATELY after!

Applic: I love what Dr. Black says in his video: Show it next week: “It’s not how I would do it! I would teach. He didn’t ask!”

Understand What Baptism Represents:

- Baptism is a physical expression of a spiritual reality (People cannot see your heart...can see actions)
- Baptism “lives out” the gospel message for everyone to see (Upright, Under, Out) Rom 6:4
- Baptism is an opportunity for us to verbalize our faith (Do you believe...Have you accepted, Do you promise)
Mt 10:32 “Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.”

There are some very important spiritual truths that baptism highlights and illustrates for us.

In addition it is VERY important for us to stand before others and verbalize our faith in Jesus Christ

Understand 5 Reasons Why You Should Be Baptized:

- Example: Jesus modeled it for us! Mk 1:10 Follow me....He was baptized
- Obedience: Jesus told us to do it! Mt 28:19-20 That should be enough!
- Submission: First in a lifetime of submission: Lk 6:46 Why do you call me Lord, Lord and not do...
- Testimony: You are demonstrating Mt 10:32 Ask and answer questions...HELPS YOU
- Preparation: Obedience in small...prep for larger Mt 25:21: Well done...faithful in small things...master

CONCL: Have you followed Jesus in baptism? IF not, I want to challenge you today...Follow Him Connection Card