



Baptism in the New Testament Church

What did Jesus tell His followers to do? (Matthew 28:19-20)

1. Go.
2. Make disciples.
3. Baptize them.
4. Teach them to obey (follow) all I've commanded (taught).

What did Jesus' followers do? (Book of Acts and rest of NT)

1. They went and proclaimed **the gospel** to everyone.
We all have a problem, a **need**.
God has the solution, a **gift**.
So we have a decision. **Accept or reject** God's remedy, His gift.
2. Those who believed the message (the gospel) became disciples (**student-followers**) of Jesus Christ.
3. Then they baptized those who **had become** Jesus' followers.
4. And they taught them **to obey** Jesus' teachings.

- A. Christian baptism was/is a symbolic act by believers who want **to publically identify** themselves with Jesus Christ.

- B. Water baptism symbolizes **dying** with Christ, being **buried** with Christ, and **rising** with Christ to newness of life. (Romans 6:3-6)

- C. Water baptism is the symbol
- of the washing of regeneration,
 - of cleansing from guilt,
 - of forgiveness of sin,
 - and of union with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection, but never a **condition** of these.
- C. For the first three centuries of Christianity, those who expressed faith in Christ received instruction and **then afterward** got baptized.
- D. Baptism is a public picture of the personal relationship you have already entered into with Jesus Christ.

Message

Your identity in Christ is declared in baptism and demonstrated in daily life.

So what? Now What? Action Points:

- Rejoice at the testimonies you are about to hear from those who have experienced new life in Christ.
- Remember your baptism and renew your commitments.

Believers Being Baptized Today

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*Everyone is welcome to the
Thanksgiving Eve Prayer Service
8-9pm this Wednesday night.*

*We will gather around the fire in Fellowship Hall
and thank to Lord together for His many blessings upon us.*