

## What is Baptism?

*The word baptizo in the Greek means to immerse and was used to describe clothing that was dipped into a dye to change its appearance. It is not actually a word, it is what is called a transliteration. That is a word that is not translated it is just left as it is from its original language. (This is done because at the time of the translation an accurate translation would have caused too much controversy so it was never translated) It should say immersed. Not baptized.*

When you think of Baptism what images come to mind?

*The practice of Baptism was a very public event in the early church that was originally done at the local river or water reserve and everyone in your town or village saw you and knew what you were doing. Baptism told everyone that you were a follower of Christ and could and in many times did cause many Christians to lose their life for their faith.*

I want to read you what happened to many of the early church family.

- Was their faith in God important to them?
- Why do you think they were willing to die, instead of denouncing Christ?
- What did baptism mean to them?
- Baptism was very important to Jesus, he himself was baptized let's look at his baptism

Matthew 13: 13-17

- Why did Jesus say he was to be baptized?
- What happened at Jesus' Baptism?
- What happened after his baptism?
- Jesus' baptism was at the beginning of his new direction in his life to serve God on earth?

What does that tell us about the need for baptism?

Let's look at Matthew 28: 19-20

- What was Jesus' command to us as believers?
- What was his promise?

- What did Jesus say we were to do?
- Does Jesus want his followers to be baptized?
- What does Baptism mean to us as believers?

Let's look at Romans 6:3-11

Baptism represents Jesus' and our death burial and resurrection.

- How do we die?
- How are we raised?
- What happened to our old being, and Why?

Let's now look at Colossians 2:8-15

- What does Baptism show us a picture of?
- What were we before we were saved?
- What are we now?
- How does this affect our status in Life?

Ephesians 4:1-7

- How are we to treat one another? Why?
- In what ways are we connected as believers?

Finally let's look at Galatians 3: 26-28

- What does God mean when he says we are no longer Jews nor Gentiles, men or women?
- What does it mean to you personally to know that when you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and savior you are made one with him and all other believers.
- What have you learned today?
- What is God speaking to you about salvation, or being obedient in Baptism?