

Why Baptism?

May 25th, 2025



DAY 1: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BAPTISM

READING: ROMANS 6:3-4, MATTHEW 28:19-20

Baptism is more than a ritual—it's a powerful symbol of our identification with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. As we're immersed in water, we're declaring that our old self has died with Christ. As we emerge, we're proclaiming our new life in Him.

Today, reflect on your own baptism or, if you haven't been baptized, consider what's holding you back. How can you live out the reality of being "dead to sin and alive to God" (Romans 6:11) in your daily life? Remember, baptism is an outward expression of an inward transformation. Let this truth shape your identity and actions today.

Pray for obedience in following Jesus' example of baptism. Pray for forgiveness in Jesus name.

DAY 2: FROM RITUAL TO RELATIONSHIP

READING: JOHN 3:1-8, GALATIANS 2:20

Jesus told Nicodemus that to enter the kingdom of God, one must be born again. This spiritual rebirth isn't about following religious rituals, but about entering into a living relationship with Christ. Paul expresses this beautifully in Galatians: "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me."

Today, examine your faith. Are you caught in the rut of ritual, or are you experiencing the richness of relationship with Jesus? Ask God to deepen your connection with Him, moving beyond mere religious observance to a vibrant, transformative relationship.

Pray for faith to be more than a ritual and to come alive.

DAY 3: THE POWER OF OBEDIENCE

READING: ACTS 16:25-34, JAMES 1:22-25

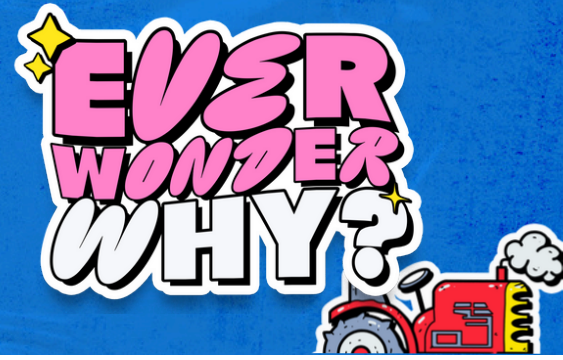
The story of Paul, Silas, and the Philippian jailer demonstrates the power of obedience and faith. Despite their circumstances, Paul and Silas praised God, leading to a dramatic conversion. The jailer's immediate baptism shows his eagerness to obey. James reminds us to be doers of the word, not just hearers.

Today, consider an area of your life where God is calling you to obey. It might be uncomfortable or inconvenient, but remember that obedience often precedes blessing. What step of faith is God asking you to take?

Pray for strength and courage to obey even when it's not comfortable or convenient.

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DAY 4: NEW IDENTITY IN CHRIST

READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-21, COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

Baptism symbolizes our new identity in Christ. We are new creations, reconciled to God and called to be ambassadors for Christ. Our old self is gone, and our life is now hidden with Christ in God.

Today, reflect on what it means to live out your new identity. How does being a "new creation" change the way you view yourself and others? Ask God to help you embrace your identity in Christ fully, letting it influence your thoughts, words, and actions.

Pray for the presence of God and for the knowledge and experience of knowing you are adopted in God's family.

DAY 5: LIVING AS PART OF GOD'S FAMILY

READING: ACTS 2:38-47, EPHESIANS 2:19-22

When we come to faith in Christ and are baptized, we're not just individually saved—we're brought into God's family, the church. The early believers devoted themselves to fellowship, breaking bread together, and prayer. They shared their possessions and praised God together.

Today, consider your connection to your local church. Are you actively participating in the life of the body of Christ? How can you deepen your relationships within the church family? Remember, we're called to be living stones in God's spiritual house, built together for His glory.

Pray for openness to the opportunities to serve and strengthen the church through your talents, abilities, and spiritual gifts.