

HARVEST

STUDENTS

preparing for

BAPTISM



Exploring what the Bible says about baptism

STUDY GUIDE



Jesus Saves, not baptism!

The Bad News...

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus (Romans 3:23).

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:23).

The Good News...

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son (John 3:16-18).

Receiving the Gift...

If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame” (Romans 10:8-10).

The New Reality...

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-18).

Next things next!



Baptism shouts loud and proud!

So, what is baptism?

1. Not salvation! Trusting Jesus brings salvation.
2. An outward sign of what's already happened on the inside!

Why do we get baptized?

1. **To shout to the world that we stand with Jesus now (Acts 8:34-38).**

The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him (Acts 8:34-38).

2. **To follow Jesus' example (Luke 3:21-22).**

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased" (Luke 3:21-22).

3. **To obey Jesus' command (Matthew 28:18-20).**

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20).

4. To become part of the Family (Acts 2:44-47).

All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved (Acts 2:44-47).

Practical aspects of baptism.

- ✓ Bring clothes you can get wet in (shorts or swimming trunks and a dark t-shirt would be best).
- ✓ Bring a change of clothes to change into after baptism.
- ✓ Bring a towel.
- ✓ Bend your knees and plug your nose!
- ✓ Invite your family and friends so you can share your new faith with them.

My Story: Before I met Jesus...

My Story: How I met Jesus.

Why do I want to be baptized?

A favorite or meaningful verse: