



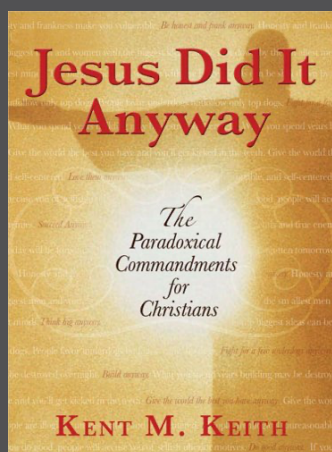
# Pastor's Niche

## June 2025

*And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes.*

— Galatians 3:27 (NLT)

### BOOK OF THE MONTH



#### Jesus Did It Anyway

*The Paradoxical  
Commandments  
for Christians*

By: Kent M. Keith  
ISBN: 0-399-15326-8

#### SCRIPTURES:

*Acts of Obedience*

**June 1-7**

*Acts 5:29*

**June 8-14**

*Deuteronomy 11:1*

**June 15-21**

*2 John 1:6*

**June 22-28**

*Luke 11:28*

**June 29-30**

*John 14:15*

## Baptism: A Step That Changes Everything

Baptism is more than a church tradition—it's a deeply personal and sacred moment that means everything to God. When Jesus Himself was baptized, it wasn't because He needed to repent, but to fulfill all righteousness and set the example for us: *But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires"* (Matthew 3:15). Baptism is our public "yes" to God, a declaration that we've accepted Jesus and are ready to walk in new life with Him. It's like changing out of dirty clothes and putting on a fresh outfit that reflects who we are now in Christ. God sees baptism as an act of obedience, surrender, and love—a signal that we're His, washed clean and made new. Just like we celebrate birthdays or big life moments, baptism marks a spiritual rebirth that brings joy to Heaven. It shows God—and the world—that we're not turning back!

*Baptism is our public "yes" to God.*

In everyday life, baptism reminds us of who we belong to when we're tempted to go with the crowd or respond in anger. It strengthens our resolve to forgive, to serve, and to walk in love when it's hard—because we've already declared that our life now belongs to Jesus. When we're facing a tough choice at work, dealing with family drama, or trying to heal from past pain, our baptism is a reminder that we're not who we used to be. We've been buried with Christ and raised to walk in a new way: For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism: *And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives* (Romans 6:4). Baptism also connects us to a larger spiritual family—others who have made the same commitment and can walk with us as we grow. If you haven't taken this step yet, know that it's not about being perfect—it's about trusting the One Who is. Jesus is inviting you into a deeper walk, and baptism is the beautiful beginning of that journey. Mount Zion Baptist Church is ready to help you start your journey with baptism. *Are you ready to give God your public 'yes'?*

*Pastor Daniel Simmons*