

Discipleship Pathway 1

Session 6: Baptism in Water

All who repent of their sins and believe on Christ as Savior and Lord are instructed to be baptized as a profession of their faith.¹ It is an integral step in a new believers journey towards _____.

Read: Matthew 28:19

Baptism is a beautiful reflection of Jesus' _____, _____ and _____. Those who believe are _____ in water identifying with Christ's being buried and then raised up to walk in newness of life.

Ask at your table how many have ever been baptized in water? Were they baptized as a child or an adult? Feel free to share about your baptism experience.

Leaders Note: *There are three primary methods of baptism: sprinkling, affusion and immersion. Affusion is a method of baptism where water is poured on the head of the person being baptized. Although we are promoting immersion in this study, we want you to be aware of possible answers you might be given.*

When we are baptized we are not just doing so out of obedience to the Word of God, but more so we are following Jesus' _____.

Read: Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus' baptism was a _____ of His death, burial and resurrection, while also serving as a reminder of the sacrifice that He made to purchase our salvation. We follow in His footsteps when we step into the waters of baptism. For when we are baptized we are _____ with Him.

Buried with Christ

12 For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.**13** You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins.

14 He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.”-**Colossians 2:12-13**

What do you think it means to be buried with Christ and raised to new life?

¹Statement of Fundamental Truths”, accessed on December 14,2022, <https://ag.org/Beliefs/Statement-of-Fundamental-Truths#6>

Read: Romans 6:4

Leaders note: *It is important to communicate that the same mighty power that raised Jesus from the dead, is the same power that gives us new life from our sinful past and old (dead) way of life.*

Baptism is more than just a demonstration of faith, but it is an _____ of our life with Jesus' life creating a spiritual bond.

A Spiritual Bond

“For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.”-**Galatians 3:26-28**

Baptism creates a _____ between Jesus and those who put their faith in Him. We become one with Him by sharing in His baptism. A bond that is held equally by all believers.

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:13, Ephesians 4:4-6

We are all baptized into the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. There is but one body, one faith, and one Lord. Baptism binds us to Jesus, but it also binds us to one another.

Read: 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

The cloud and the sea, in Moses day, were foreshadows of the baptism we would experience today. Notice how they all ate the _____ spiritual food and drank the _____ spiritual water because they all drank from the _____ spiritual rock (Jesus) that was with them.

Baptism is a deeply personal experience, but it is also a shared experience. It binds us together, while it also speaks to the world.

Read: Acts 2:38-41

When we are baptized we are declaring to the _____ that they have died with Christ and raised with Him to walk in newness of life. We no longer identify with the world, but with Jesus and His Body (the Church).

This week's reading plan: Read: Exodus Ch.1-10, Proverbs Ch. 6

Leaders Note: The question may arise, “Must a person be baptized to be saved?” Although a person must only put their faith in Christ to be saved, the initial expression of that faith is baptism. It is a public profession of faith in His death, burial and resurrection.