



I. INTRO

A. The practice of Baptism started with the words of Jesus

Matthew 28:19-20 (NKJV) ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

B. Following Jesus

- Jesus chose to be baptized at the beginning of His public ministry

Mark 1:9 (NKJV) It came to pass in those days *that* Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

C. Following the example of the early church

Acts 9:18 – Paul accepts Jesus and was baptized.

Acts 10:47-48 – Cornelius and others were the first non-Jewish converts to Christianity and were baptized.

Acts 16:13-15 – Lydia and her household “believed” and were baptized.

Acts 16:16-34 – The Philippian jailer “believed” with his household and they were baptized

Acts 19:3-5 (NLT) ³ “Then what baptism did you experience?” he asked. And they replied, “The baptism of John.” ⁴ Paul said, “John’s baptism called for repentance from sin. But John himself told the people to believe in the one who would come later, meaning Jesus.” ⁵ As soon as they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

II. ILLUSTRATING A SPIRITUAL TRUTH

A. Baptism is an outward recognition of an inward reality

Romans 6:3-6 (NLT) ³ Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? ⁴ 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. ⁵ Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. ⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin.

B. Baptism is both personal and public

- Baptism is a personal declaration of faith in Christ
 - Baptism isn’t a condition of salvation, it’s the evidence of salvation
- Baptism is a public declaration of faith in Christ
 - The Jordan River was an intersection of public life



Decisions, Decisions

Part 5
May 29, 2022

Baptism Sunday

