



I. INTRO/REVIEW

A. A family church teaching people to reach their world

Acts 8:5, 8 (NKJV) Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them... And there was great joy in that city.

B. Generational fruit

- Baby dedications and water baptisms are visible reminders that the church is generational.

Psalm 145:4 (New Life Version) Families of this time will praise Your works to the families-to-come. They will tell about Your powerful acts.

The question: What happens in the space between a baby dedication and the day a person steps into the waters of baptism?

C. The book of Acts is the result of living out Matthew 28

Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT) Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

- The Mission

II. LIFE BETWEEN DEDICATION AND BAPTISM

A. The church at Rome

Romans 1:8 (NLT) Let me say first that I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith in him is being talked about all over the world.

B. There is a journey between dedication and baptism

- Dedication is a parent’s promise. Baptism is a believer’s confession.

Romans 10:3-4 (NLT) For they don’t understand God’s way of making people right with himself. Refusing to accept God’s way, they cling to their own way of getting right with God by trying to keep the law. For Christ has already accomplished the purpose for which the law was given. As a result, all who believe in him are made right with God.

- The Jews were zealous for God, but they tried to be right with God through works.
- True salvation comes through faith in Christ, nothing more or less.

Romans 10:9-10 (NLT) If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.

- Lord means the master or owner, but really means, **surrender**.
- Lordship isn’t lip service; it’s life service.



Romans 10:12-13 (NLT) Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

- The Gospel isn’t limited to one group, it’s for every nation, tribe and tongue.
- C. Romans gives the road map between dedication and salvation
 - Faith to be saved comes by hearing (Rom 10:17).
 - Hearts believe that God raised Jesus from the dead.
 - Mouths confess that Jesus is Lord.
 - Lives are surrendered.

Romans 10:14 (NLT) But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?

D. This is the gap that we as a church are committed to bridge

Here’s the answer to the question: What happens in the space between a baby dedication and the day a person steps into the waters of baptism?

III. NEXT

- A. Our job is to fill the space between dedication and baptism with the Gospel
 - Our job is to make sure that the Gospel is heard.
 - Today, these families and individuals are writing their highlight reel moment.
 - What’s yours?

1 John 3:2 (Berean Literal Bible) Beloved, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been revealed... [But] we know...

Psalms 145:4 (New Life Version) Families of this time will praise Your works to the families-to-come. They will tell about Your powerful acts.