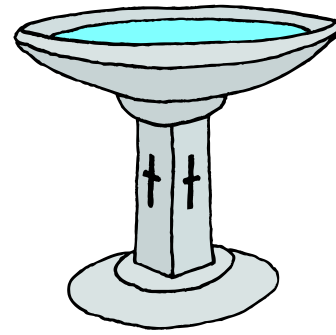


Baptized into God's Name



Let's think about it:

One of your co-workers has had a baby. You're excited for them! A couple weeks later you are talking to your co-worker, and the subject of baptism comes up. Your co-worker says, with a somewhat negative tone of voice, "I don't know. We've not really even thought about baptism. I don't know much about it, and I'm not sure I want to know." What emotions are going through you at that point? What questions do you have?

Into the Word:

Below is a list of passages regarding baptism. Look up each, and decide on two things: 1) Write down at least one truth about baptism from each passage. 2) Write down one way that passage leads you to more fully appreciate baptism.

Passage	Truth(s) it teaches	I appreciate it!!!
Matt 28:18-20		
John 3:3-6		
Acts 2:38-39		
Acts 22:16		
Rom 6:3-4, 14		
Galatians 3:26-28		
Eph 5:25-27		
Titus 3:5-6		
1 Pet 3:21		

Let's Get Real

1. Go back to our introductory question. Your co-worker has responded with some degree of negativity, but they are still there, and you now have the chance to address them regarding baptism. In your groups, decide on the top three truths – from what we've studied today – that you would want to share with your co-worker regarding baptism. Be prepared to explain to the rest of the group why you chose what you chose.

Takin' it home:

1. One theologian makes the point that baptism gives the believer his/her *identity*, *security*, and *purpose*. Individually, glance back at the passages again, then complete the following sentences.
 - Baptism gives me my identity ...
 - Baptism gives me security ...
 - Baptism gives me purpose ...

Quiz! Mark each True or False

1. Jesus told us to baptize all nations.
2. Only people who are baptized can go to heaven.
3. One of the symbols of baptism is a clam shell.
4. Baptism is a symbolic act only.
5. Jesus was baptized and baptized people.
6. Paul was baptized and baptized people.
7. Most of the baptisms mentioned in the New Testament were immersions.
8. The church custom of having sponsors came about because of persecution.
9. Often exorcisms were included in the rite of infant baptism.
10. The word "baptize" is from a Greek word meaning, "to immerse."

Some Passages on Baptism

Matthew 28:18–20 (NIV84)

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

John 3:3–6 (NIV84)

³ In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.” ⁴ “How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!” ⁵ Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

Acts 2:38–39 (NIV84)

³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

Acts 22:16 (NIV84)

¹⁶ And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.’

Romans 6:3–4 (NIV84)

³ Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ... ¹⁴ For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

Galatians 3:26–28 (NIV84)

²⁶ You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 5:25–27 (NIV84)

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Titus 3:5–6 (NIV84)

⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,

1 Peter 3:21 (NIV84)

²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,