

Series: Why We Do What We Do

We Practice Adult Immersion Acts 2:38

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“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.” (Acts 2:38)

- I. Baptism as Portrayed in the Gospels.
 - A. The very first verse in the Gospels which mentions baptism is found in Mark 1:4.
 - 1. “And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.”
 - B. In Matthew 28:19-20, we see that baptism is to be a distinctive mark of discipleship.
 - 1. “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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.”

- II. Baptism in the Book of Acts. Acts 2:38, 41: “Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ’...those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.”
 - A. Acts 2 tells about Peter on the Day of Pentecost, preaching the first gospel sermon.
 - B. In Acts 8 we have the story of Philip going to the city of Samaria.
 - C. In Acts 22 Paul tells about his own conversion.
 - 1. “Now what are you waiting for? Get up, and be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on His name.” Acts 22:16

- III. Baptism in the Epistles.
 - A. One overriding truth is that baptism always takes place after belief.
 - 1. “Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ were baptized into his death? 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.” Romans 6:3-4
 - B. Baptism means at least 3 things:
 - 1. It’s a turning from the old life.
 - 2. It’s a time of identification with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.
 - 3. It’s a total commitment to be added to the church.
 - C. How important is your baptism?
 - 1. “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” 2 Corinthians 5:17