

BAPTISM



TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

A PARENT-CHILD WORKBOOK



3.....first things first

4.....who is baptized?

6.....what is baptism?

8.....why are we baptized?

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15.....sharing your story

Dear Parents,

Parents are primary when it comes to the spiritual development of their children. This is why the Bible places such strong emphasis on parents investing in the lives of their kids (Deut. 6:4-9; Eph. 6:4; 2 Tim. 3:14-17). Once your child really understands the gospel and genuinely believes in Jesus as their Savior from sin and Lord of their life, being baptized is a significant step in their walk with Christ. This booklet will help you have meaningful conversations about what baptism is and why it is important. May our Lord encourage you as you disciple your child to follow Jesus for a lifetime.

For His glory,
Grant Kaul



HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

This workbook was designed as a tool for you to use one-on-one with your child as you navigate through what God's Word says about baptism. We want to equip YOU to be the primary spiritual leader in your home. Together you will explore 4 questions about baptism in scripture, interpreting its meaning, and applying the truth.

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness... 2 Timothy 3:17a

Concluding these sections there are several pages of questions and activities created for your child to work through their testimony and stating what they know is true. Once you have completed the workbook and if you believe your child is ready for baptism, there is list of what to do next located on the back cover.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you as you go through this workbook with your child, seeking discernment on what you need to address, questions to ask, and what to share. Submit to Scripture as the final authority. If in this study you find yourself unsure of what God's Word says or what you've understood to be true, we encourage you to seek the counsel of a pastor at Fellowship for clarification. May you be willing, as the Bereans in Acts 17:11, to receive the Word with eagerness, examining the Scriptures to see whether these things are true.

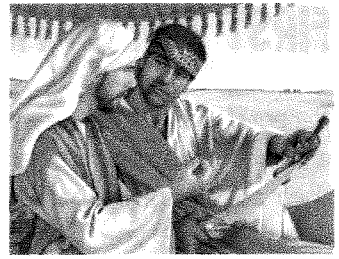


FIRST THINGS FIRST

Parents, would you set aside some one-on-one time with your child to have an open discussion utilizing the questions below? Not only listen well to their answers, but share your responses too. Take your time, and ask the Spirit to guide you in this discussion...

- **What is the Bible? What do you know about it? What's your favorite story in the Bible?** (*2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21*)
- **What happened with Adam & Eve? What did they do? What is sin?** (*Genesis 3; 1 John 3:4; Romans 3:23*)
- **Has everyone sinned? What about people who do really good things?** (*Romans 3:10-12; 23*)
- **How do you know that you have sinned?** (*James 3:2a*)
- **What happens to people who sin? Why?** (*Romans 6:23a*)
- **Can we do anything to rescue ourselves? What did God do to rescue us?** (*Ephesians 2:8-9*)
- **How can God forgive us? If we work really hard to be good, will that please God enough to forgive us? How can we please God?** (*Romans 5:6-11; 2 Corinthians 5:21*)
- **If we can't do enough good things to save ourselves, then why would you desire to go to church, read His Word, serve, and love others?** (*John 15; Romans 12:1-21; Ephesians 2:10; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 John 4:10; Hebrews 10:23-25*)
- **Can you share why you need Jesus? Can you share why you love Him?** (*Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:15-21*)
- **Do you have any questions? Does anything seem confusing?** (*James 1:5-6*)

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?



READ Acts 8:26-38

Complete the story with the correct word.

When the angel of the Lord told Philip to go south, Philip
 ① _____ and headed to Gaza. While on the road,
 Philip was told by the Spirit to go meet a ② _____
 from Ethiopia who was sitting in his chariot reading Isaiah the
 prophet. ③ _____ asked the eunuch if he under-
 stood what he was reading. The eunuch wanted Philip to come
 and sit with him. Using ④ _____
 Philip ⑤ _____ about Jesus. When they came
 to some water, the eunuch asked to be baptized. “Yes,” Philip
 said, “as long as you ⑥ _____ in Jesus with all
 your heart.” Since the eunuch said he did, Philip stopped the
 chariot and ⑦ _____ him in the
 ⑧ _____ because of his belief in ⑨ _____.

Fill in the blanks
 going down with
 the matching word
 from the story. In
 the boxes going
 across, discover
 WHO should be
 baptized.

_____ ⑦ _____
 _____ ⑥ _____ ⑧ _____ ⑨ _____
 _____ ③ _____ ④ _____
 _____ ⑤ _____
 _____ ① _____
 _____ ② _____

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READ Acts 2:37-41*

After Peter shared about the truth of Jesus to people of Jewish and Gentile backgrounds, how did the people respond?

Peter answered their question with 2 commands:

- 1.
- 2.

***Note:** At first glance this passage seems to teach forgiveness of sin is a result of baptism. Yet over 150 times Scripture explicitly presents faith alone as the means of receiving God's free gift of salvation. Here are a few examples: John 1:12; 3:15-18, 36; 5:24; 6:35, 47; Acts 16:31; Rom. 3:21-30; 4:5; 5:1; 10:9-10; Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8-9; Phil. 3:9. Further, when we look at Paul's summary of the gospel in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, no mention of baptism is made. (Cf. 1 Corinthians 1:14-17) Last, while the word "for" can be understood in some contexts as "in order to." In the context of Acts 2:38, the meaning of the word **for** in the phrase "...be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins," carries the idea of "because of." For example, the statement "I am taking two aspirin for my headache" does not mean that one is taking aspirin in order to get a headache, but because one already has a headache.



READ Acts 10:43-48

Peter again is sharing about Jesus in the presence of both Jews and Gentiles. While he is sharing about God's forgiveness to those who believe, he notices something take place. What was it?

He then says that because these Gentiles surely believed, then they should be _____.

Who should be baptized?

Only those who first _____
in Jesus.

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Baptism represents **THREE** things that have already taken place.

 **READ** Romans 6:3-11*

What does baptism picture about Jesus?

What does baptism say about you?

***Note:** It seems most likely that this is a reference to what is known as the baptism of the Spirit though there is some debate. Baptism of the Spirit is His work of identifying the believer with Christ's saving death, burial, and resurrection (Rom. 6:3-5) and placing them into the spiritual body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13). Nevertheless this passage gives a good understanding of what is pictured in water baptism.

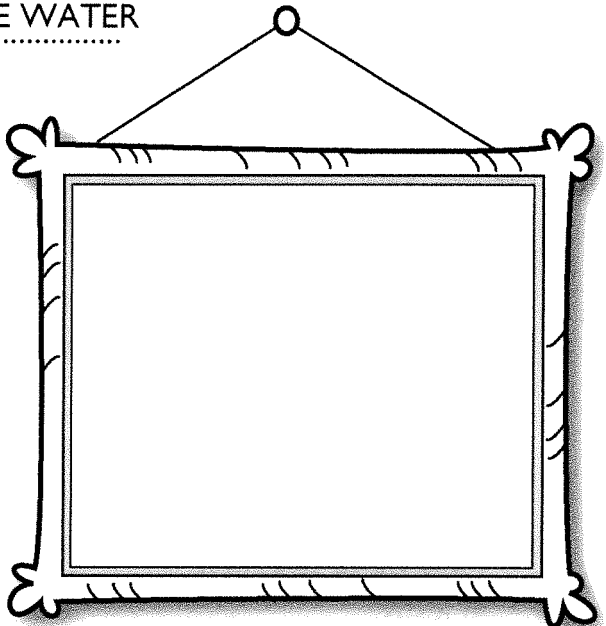
Draw someone being baptized at each of these stages and answer the questions that follow.



GOING INTO THE WATER

What does this picture about Jesus?

What does this picture about us?

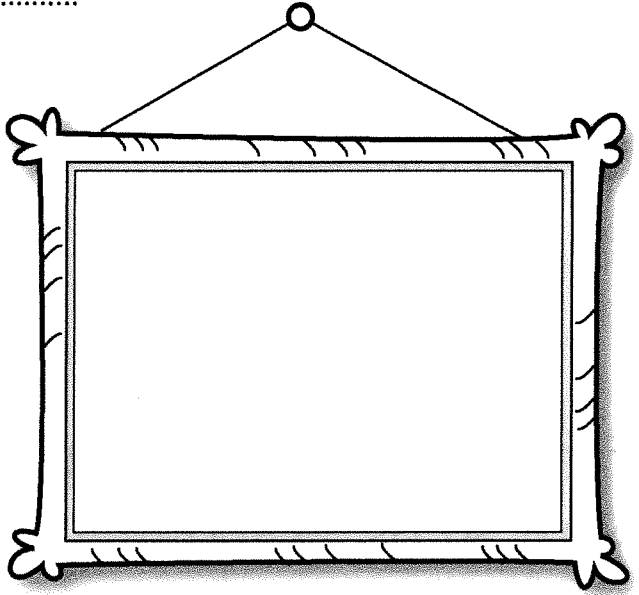


2

UNDER THE WATER

What does this picture
about Jesus?

What does this picture
about us?

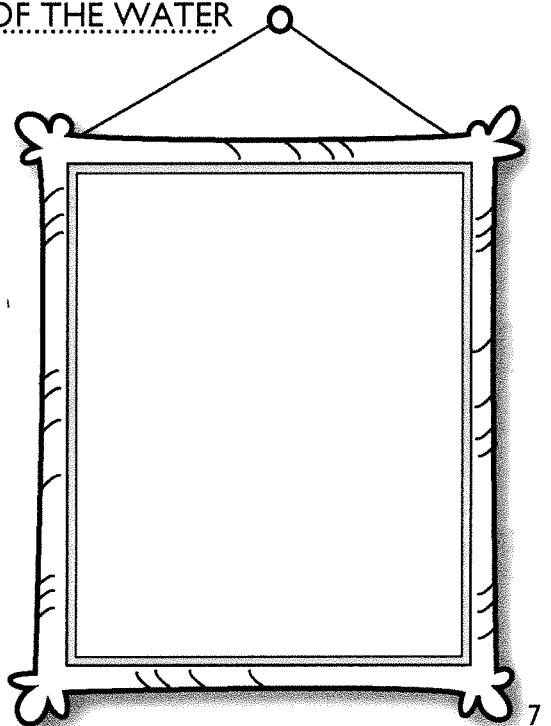


3

COMING UP OUT OF THE WATER

What does this picture
about Jesus?

What does this picture
about us?



WHY ARE WE BAPTIZED?

Baptism tells others you are a part of God's family.

 READ 1 Corinthians 12:13*

We are baptized into what?

Complete the verse by choosing the correct word in the box.

For we were baptized by
Spirit so as to form body-
whether Jew or , slave or
 - and we were given
the Spirit to drink.

GENTILE

ALL

FREE

ONE

***Note:** This is clearly a reference to the baptism of the Spirit, yet still instructs on the message sent through the picture of water baptism.

 READ John 1:12

If you receive Jesus through faith, what does God make you?

 READ Ephesians 1:4b-8; 2:4-9

Because of God's great love for you, how did He make you His child?
How could God do that?

Write your full name in the name tag to the right.

Have you ever had someone identify whose family you belong to because of something you said or did or how you looked?

There are certain characteristics about our families that make them different than any other family on the planet.

We don't walk around wearing name tags. However, our looks, our behavior, our mannerisms, and even obedience will many times show to whose family we belong.



Can you make a list of characteristics that identify you with your family?

▲ _____


▲ _____

▲ _____

In the same way, when someone is baptized, that person is identifying themselves with God's family! Baptism says, "I am a child of God!"

Baptism also tells others you are obeying Jesus.

.....

 **READ Matthew 28:19-20¹**

Jesus gave His disciples one explicit command. What was it?

Then He makes 3 statements with the force of a command. Can you list them?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



READ John 15:14

How did Jesus say you could identify His friends?



READ Matthew 3:13-17

This passage indicates that one reason Jesus was baptized is because God the Father desired it. We too obey the will of God when we are baptized.

Circle the reasons why someone should be baptized:

My friends are getting baptized.

I want to obey Jesus.

Someone dared me to.

I'm afraid that I'm not a Christian.

I want people to know that I am a part of God's family!

It looks fun.

I go to church, so I think I should.

I believe that Jesus saved me.

I feel guilty for doing something wrong.

HOW ARE WE BAPTIZED?

A person is baptized in water.

★ *The word “BAPTIZE” means to put into water. In the original language of the New Testament it was “baptizo”, which means to dip and was used among the Greeks when dyeing cloth by dipping it in a color or the scooping of water by dipping a cup into a bucket.*

When you think about what baptism pictures, as you’ve already studied, you see that being dipped into the water and coming up from the water is the only way baptism represents Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection.

When you are baptized, you will be dipped in the water.



A person is baptized by someone else.

You don’t baptize yourself. Even Jesus Himself went to John to be baptized. To be baptized by someone else requires someone to witness what you are saying is true and that you submit to obeying Christ.

You will probably be baptized by your pastor, a minister from your church, or someone who has been a spiritual leader in your life.

A person is baptized when others are watching.

If the purpose of baptism is to declare what God has done and whose family you belong to, then there must be people watching and listening!

Have you ever seen someone be baptized? YES NO

If so, what were you thinking as he/she was baptized?



A person is baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

 READ Matthew 28:19

“ therefore and disciples
of all nations, baptizing them in the
name of the , and the
, and the :”

Being immersed in water alone is not baptism. When we call on the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in baptism, we honor and declare the full work of God in our salvation.

Beginning with the passage, draw a line to connect the people and their part in baptism within the story. (Follow the example.)


BIBLE
PASSAGE


WHO WAS
BEING
BAPTIZED?


WHO
DID THE
BAPTIZING?


WHO
WATCHED?

Matthew
3:4-6,13-17

Jailer's
family

Philip

Acts
16:27-34

Saul of
Tarsus

Paul

his family and
others in Corinth

Acts
8:36-39

Lydia's
household

John

Ephesians

Acts
18:8

Ethiopian
eunuch

Silas and
jailer's family

Acts
9:17-19

Jesus

Ananias*

her
family

Acts
19:1-5

Crispus'
family

Philip

crowds
from Judea

Acts
16:14-15

Ephesus
believers

disciples in
Damascus

** Though scripture doesn't name him as the one who baptizes, it seems to indicate.*



ASSIGNMENT: Talk with 3 Believers who have been baptized and ask them these questions, then record below:

- When were you baptized?
- Where were you baptized?
- Who baptized you?
- Who was there to see you being baptized?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Who would you like to invite to see you being baptized?


1

Who would baptize you?

SHARING YOUR STORY

Did you realize that God will use your story to point other people to Him?

God has also done a great thing in your life through the gift of salvation. He has given you a unique story, and only you can tell it. Your story is an important gift God has given to you, and others need to hear it! You may have heard people say that they were sharing their "testimony". What that means is that they are **testifying**, or telling, about God and what He has done. So when you tell your story, or testimony, you get to testify about Jesus!

 BEFORE I BELIEVED IN JESUS...

- What did you think or believe about God?

- What did you think about going to church?

- What did you think about Christians?

 THEN I UNDERSTOOD THE TRUTH...

- Who shared with you about Jesus?

- What verse(s) meant the most to you as you understood about the truth of salvation?
- How did you know you needed to be saved?
- How did you respond to that truth?
- When did you become a Believer?
- Who did you tell?



NOW THAT I BELIEVE...

- What does Jesus mean to you?

- How are you following Him?

- How are you different now that you are His child?

- How important is God's Word to you?

- Why do you want to obey Him?

- How does God want you to grow?

- What is He teaching you right now?

- Why do you want to be baptized?

THE NEXT STEP

Parents, thank you for taking the time to walk through this workbook with your child! If you believe your child has come to faith in Jesus and is ready for baptism, please contact the church office to set up a time to talk with a pastor at Fellowship.



WACO, TEXAS

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