

Home Group Discussion Guide

Believer's Baptism – Mark 1:2-13; Matt 28:18-20; Acts 8:26-38

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The following questions are designed to help groups explore the message above by challenging participants to consider how God is wanting them to apply it to their lives.

*The questions are a **guide** to help lead discussion.*

Please don't feel that all questions need to be asked, instead respond to the needs of your group. If you have new people in your group, take the opportunity to introduce each other and clarify any expectations that are present in your group (such as confidentiality).

GETTING STARTED

1. Different Christian traditions have arrived at various conclusions about baptism. What are some of the different views or practices of baptism you've encountered in your faith journey?
2. Was there a new idea / information that stood out to you from Sunday's message on baptism? What was it?

REFLECTING ON THE MESSAGE

1. Gavin shared that there are 3 things Scripture is clear about;
Baptism Follows Faith Baptism Is Public Baptism Involves Water
How does this match up to your understanding of what Scripture says about baptism?
2. Consider the survey of Luke-Acts that Gavin took us through;
[Luke 23:39-43, Acts 2:36-39, Acts 8:34-39, Acts 10:44-48, Acts 16:29-34, Acts 19:1-7]
What stands out/ do you notice about these different accounts of baptism?
3. Christians who love Jesus have understood baptism in different ways. How can we hold our convictions clearly while still showing grace and generosity toward Christians from other traditions?

Consider Acts 8:26–38

4. After hearing the good news about Jesus, the Ethiopian asks, "What can stand in the way of my being baptised?" What stands out to you about the simplicity and immediacy of his response?

RESPONDING TO THE MESSAGE

As a church we practice baptism as saying;

'I belong to the risen Jesus, and have chosen to walk in His ways.'

1. For those who have been baptised; considering this understanding – how is God inviting you to continue walking in this way this week?
2. For those who have not yet been baptised; What are some of the questions / concerns or obstacles you might need to explore?

OPPORTUNITY FOR PRAYER

Our Home Groups are the primary place for pastoral care to occur within the Church. We would encourage you to take the opportunity to pray for each other in this space.

