

“Ecclesiology: The Doctrine of the Church:
”Baptism: To Be Identified with Christ and His People”
Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:38-41; Romans 6:3-11

- Jesus commanded baptism: Matthew 28:18-20
 - To be a believer was to be baptized (Acts 2:38-41; Acts 8:35-38; Acts 16:30-33; Acts 18:8). It is foreign to the New Testament to have a believer that was not baptized and a member of a local church.
 - The failure to take repentance and baptism seriously can lead to many other issues in the church.
 - You accumulate people who make no public proclamation of faith (Matthew 10:32-33).
 - You accumulate people who don't want accountability to live out the gospel (1 John 2:3-6).
 - You accumulate people who are indifferent to the commands of God (John 14:15).
- Baptism was by immersion and done because of conversion; not by sprinkling and not baptizing babies (Acts 8:37-38; Matthew 3:6 & 16; John 3:23; Mark 1:4-5).
 - The Greek word for baptize means to “dip completely into”.
- Baptism is a physical expression of what has spiritually happened to you (Romans 6:3-14; Colossians 2:11-15; Galatians 3:26-27).
 - We died to sin by being immersed into the death of Jesus Christ (Romans 6:3-4 & 6-7 & 11).
 - We can now live a holy and righteous life because we were immersed into Christ's righteousness (Romans 6:4 & 13-14).
 - We are guaranteed a physical resurrection because we have been immersed into the resurrection of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:10-11).
 - Christ died for our sins, rose for our justification, giving us the ability by the Holy Spirit to walk in newness of life culminating in our physical resurrection. The wrath of God has been satisfied (Romans 5:8-11)!
- Baptism points to the work of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in salvation (Matthew 28:18-20).
 - *The Father*: He is the source of salvation; He is the planner of salvation; He is the sender of Christ; He is the one who elects for salvation (Ephesians 1:3-6).
 - *The Son*: He is the means of salvation; He is the accomplisher of salvation; He is the atonement of salvation (Ephesians 1:7-12).
 - *The Spirit*: He is the one that convicts us of our sin; He is the one who convinces us of our need; He is the one who converts us (Ephesians 1:13-14; John 16:7-11; Romans 8:9-11).
- Baptism doesn't save us (1 Corinthians 1:14-17; Acts 10:44-48; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 10:9-17).
- The Old Testament Gentile Baptism was symbolic of salvation as well.
 - Circumcision: They were admitting their sinfulness.
 - Baptism: They were dead to their old life.
 - An animal sacrifice: The blood would be sprinkled on them.
- Reasons people don't get baptized....
 - Ignorance to Biblical teaching.
 - Too proud to admit disobedience.
 - Indifference to God's commands.
 - Defiance and Rebellion.
 - Not actually saved.

Worship: Psalm 18 (Citizens)

God is For Us (CityAlight)

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery (Matt Boswell)

Closing Song: My Worth Is Not In What I Own (The Gettys)

Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

Announcements:

***Volunteers:** We have a wonderful opportunity for our church members to get involved in serving our church body in the CHILDREN'S MINISTRY. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions about serving in this ministry, please talk to Kalen and Courtney!

Donations:** We will be collecting donations for Vertical 196 for the ***next 2 weeks. They are in need of the following items: men's medium boxers, regular coffee, powdered drink mixes, hard candy, toilet bowl cleaner, dessert plates, 12 oz plastic cups, 12 oz paper coffee cups.

***Baptism:** Our next baptism service is NEXT Sunday, April 18th. If you are interested in being baptized or have any questions about being baptized, please talk to Pastor Jeremey, Pastor Joel, Elder Richard, or Elder Zach.

***Fellowship Dinner:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner TONIGHT immediately following the worship service! We invite EVERYONE to stay and enjoy dinner and fellowship with us!

Evangelism Class:** The sign-up list for the April Evangelism Class is on the back table! The class will be on the last 2 Saturdays of the month, the 17th and 24th, from 6:30-8pm. If you are interested in taking the class, please sign-up! *This will be our last class until the Fall!***

***Members Meeting:** We will be having a short business meeting NEXT Sunday, April 18th, immediately following the worship service. If you are currently a church member, please plan on staying for that meeting. We do not anticipate this meeting lasting more than 30 minutes!