

Intro to Baptism



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I. Hearing the Call

Humanity's Purpose

Genesis 1:27-28

- *What blessing and purpose were given to humans?*

Genesis 2:15-17, 24-25

- *What was life like – as God originally designed it?*

Genesis 3:16-19

- *What resulted from humanity's disobedience against God?*

The Good News

Isaiah 9:6-7, 61:1-2

- *What did God promise His people through the prophet Isaiah?*
- *How long were they waiting for the fulfillment?*
- *What did it mean that He was “anointed?”*

Luke 4:14-22

- *How would you summarize Jesus's message?*

Christ's Announcement

Mark 1:14-17

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God.

¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

¹⁶ As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen.

¹⁷ "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

- *What good news did Jesus have to share?*
- *What three things did He call people to do in response?*

Christ's Invitation

Matthew 11:28-30

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

- *Does Jesus's description of following Him surprise you? Why?*

John 1:9-13, 3:16-18, 6:35, 11:25-27, 14:6-9

- *What does Jesus promise to those Who believe?*
- *Which one sounds like the best news to you?*

Responses to Jesus

Luke 18:1-14

- *According to Jesus, what does repentance look like?*

Luke 7:1-10

- *According to Jesus, what was the best example of faith (belief) that He had seen?*

Luke 5:4-11

- *Describe the process Peter went through before choosing to follow Jesus. Which part do you relate to most?*

Matthew 13:18-23

- *In the Parable of the Sower & Soils, how does Jesus illustrate different people's responses to the good news?*
- *Is there one that describes you now?
Is there one that you'd like to be? Pray and let God know!*

Matthew 13:44-46

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field.

When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

- *If you were to fully trust and follow Jesus, what would you need to leave behind?*

II. My Response

An Invitation to All

Acts 2:22-36

- *In your own words, what is Peter's message about Jesus?*

Acts 2:37-41

³⁷When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles,

"Brothers, what shall we do?"

³⁸Peter 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.

³⁹The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

⁴⁰With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."

⁴¹Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

- *How did the crowd feel when they heard the message?*
- *How were they called to respond?*

Acts 2:42-47

- *How did people's lives change afterward?*

Stories of Baptism

Acts 8:28-38, 16:25-34

- *How did these people express their belief?*

Acts 22:16; Romans 6:3-4, Galatians 3:26-29

- *What three things does baptism symbolize?*

A Promise

Romans 10:9-10

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

- *What does it mean to say that “Jesus is Lord?”*
- *What would it mean if Jesus really raised from the dead?*
- *Do you believe these things?*
- *If you would like to announce it through baptism at this time, talk to a parent or Christian leader who you trust!*

A Renewed Purpose

Matthew 28:18-20

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.”

- *What does Jesus call His followers to do?*
- *Do you see any similarities here, to humanity's original purpose?*
- *What assurances does Jesus offer before & after this?*

Matthew 5:14-16

- *How can a Christian make a difference in this world?*

1 Peter 2:9-12

- *What stands out to you from this description?*

1 Peter 3:15

- *If you were asked to explain your hope, what would you say?*



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