



What is Baptism?

Mark 16:16

Items Needed

- ✓ Bible with marked scripture
- ✓ Crayons/Markers/Pencils
- ✓ Tub or small bucket of water
- ✓ Small action figure
- ✓ Print out of photo illustrations
- ✓ Copies of coloring sheet



What Is Baptism?

Objective of Lesson

To show how Baptism is a picture of what Christ did for His people and how it is a dedication and public confession to our Lord and His completed work of redemption.

Scripture Reference

Mark 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Lesson Instructions

1. A few weeks ago we had a baptism here at our church. We have briefly talked about baptism since then but we really haven't done a complete lesson on it. Today, that is what we are going to talk about...Baptism. What is Baptism? Why do believers go through what we call, "the ordinance of Baptism?"
2. As I have told you before, every single thing in this world is designed by God to teach us about Christ Jesus and how He saves His people from their sins. If you never opened this book in front of you and read it, you would STILL have no excuse for not knowing of and believing upon God. That is because

this world is one huge picture of our Lord and Redeemer and we have no excuse for not knowing and believing on Him. (Romans 1:20, Psalm 19:1)

3. The ordinance of Baptism does three things: It is picture of how Christ saves His people from their sins; it is a dedication; and finally it is a public confession.
4. First let's talk about how Baptism is a picture of salvation. I have in front of us a bucket of water, and we are going to use this small action figure to represent the sinner in baptism. The Bible does not tell us where we should carry out the ordinance of baptism. Any body of water deep enough to cover will do. It could be a pool, a baptismal pool like we have here at the church, a river, a lake, or even the ocean. The Bible just teaches us that we must be immersed - or completely buried - in water. (Mark 7:4 and Luke 11:38) The water is a picture of the cleansing of our sins by Christ. What does water do for us? It keeps us alive and it cleanses. Both of these picture what Christ did. He is our life and He cleanses us. He did both. By being buried in the water we are picturing being buried with Christ when He died on the cross. When our sins were laid on Him, God then punished Him with death, because remember "the wages of sin is death." Where there is sin there must be death. That is the penalty of sin. The coming up out of the water pictures us being raised with Christ from the dead. See, death only has a hold on those who still have sin, but Christ died and rose again. That means all my sins that were laid on Him are paid for and gone, so baptism is a beautiful picture of what Christ did to save His people. He died and rose again, (Put the figure under the water) and by doing that gave me life and cleansed me from all my sins. What a simple and beautiful picture! (Romans 6: 3-7)
5. The next thing Baptism is is a dedication. Let's talk about what a dedication is. A few of you have friends and relatives who are in public service. For example, they are fire fighters, policemen, government, military etc... When you take on one of these jobs, for example, the military, you take an oath and you are given a uniform. (Hold up pictures of uniforms) By taking this



oath (Hold up a picture of a public service official being sworn into office and given a uniform) and putting on this military uniform you are saying you believe in and support all that that job stands for. By putting on the fire fighters uniform and carrying a badge you are telling everybody around you that you are a protector of the public and accept all that comes with that job. By putting on the policeman's uniform you are identifying yourself as being a person who protects and serves the public, and you accept all that comes with that job. Baptism is a "putting on of the uniform" in a sorts. By going through believer's baptism you are identifying yourself with Christ and what He did. What did Christ do? He kept the law perfectly; He died for His people's sins; and He was raised from the dead. When you go through believer's baptism you are telling everybody around you that you identify yourself with Christ and what He did. You are saying you are a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ. You are saying you no longer follow after the ways of the world but the ways and teachings of Christ. You are saying Christ died for your sins, and you accept all that comes with what Christ did. You are identifying yourself as a Christian, a follower of Christ, and you have no other hope before God but Christ's death and payment of your sins.

6. Baptism is also a public confession. We have public confessions all the time. How many of you have been to a marriage ceremony? (hold up the photo of marriage ceremony) Did you know that is a public confession? You have a marriage ceremony to tell everybody around you and the world that you love that person and you are dedicating your entire life and work to that person. You are creating a union with that person. You are saying they are the most important person in your life and you are now willing to take care of that person as you would care for yourself. It is a public confession of love. What if you say you do love someone but you refuse to marry them, what would that say about your love for that person? It would say you don't really love them. Love dedicates itself to its object and puts no other in front of it. By refusing to go through the marriage ceremony you are saying you don't really

want to dedicate your life and become united and become one with that person. Are you REQUIRED to get married if you love someone? No. However, what does it say about your love for that person if you refuse to unite and marry them? It would say you don't really love them. By refusing to go through the marriage ceremony you are saying you don't really want to dedicate your life and become one with that person.

7. Believer's baptism is also a public confession. You are saying you believe in Christ and all that He did for you. You are saying your hope for your salvation is solely of him and nowhere else. You are saying you are in a union with Christ and your life is in Him and you will have no other.
8. Do you have to be baptized in order to be saved? No. The Bible does not teach that. It teaches you must believe but it does not say you must be baptized. The Scriptures do say believers should submit to believer's baptism. Is there anything that hinders you from doing it? If the answer is no, then you should submit to it. What are you saying if you refuse to do it? If nothing hinders you from doing it, then by refusing to go through the ordinance of baptism you are saying you don't really believe in or want to be united and identified with Christ. If you are a believer of Christ and He is your Lord, then the ordinance of Baptism honors Him and publicly declares He is your Lord, and it is good that we do it.
9. Let's read our verse together. Mark 16:16... "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." May God give us the ability to believe in Christ and what He has done. May the Lord help us to believe His payment for our sins is all we need and we rest solely on Him and count all else but nothing. May God give us peace in knowing that what Baptism pictures is how a sinner is saved and receives eternal life and a sinner needs nothing else. Lastly, may God give us the ability to honor Him in that wonderful ordinance of believer's Baptism.



Lesson Activities

- Bucket and action figure demonstration of Baptism
- Photo illustrations of uniforms and ceremonies.
- Coloring Sheet



Take Home Lesson Overview

What Is Baptism?

Scripture Reference:

Mark 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Lesson Overview:

Today we talked about Baptism. What is Baptism? Why do believers go through what we call, "the ordinance of Baptism?" Every single thing in this world is designed by God to teach us about Christ Jesus and how He saves His people from their sins. The ordinance of Baptism is no exception. If you never a Bible, men would STILL have no excuse for not knowing of and believing upon God. That is because this world is one huge picture of our Lord and Redeemer and we have no excuse for not knowing and believing on Him. (Romans 1:20, Psalm 19:1) The ordinance of Baptism does three things: It is picture of how Christ saves His people from their sins; it is a dedication; and finally it is a public confession.

Baptism as a picture of salvation: The Bible does not tell us where we should carry out the ordinance of baptism. Any body of water deep enough to cover will do. It could be a pool, a baptismal pool like we have here at the church, a river, a lake, or even the ocean. The Bible just teaches us that we must be immersed - or completely buried - in water. (Mark 7:4 and Luke 11:38) The water is a picture of the cleansing of our sins by Christ. Just like water in our physical life keeps us alive and cleanses us, it is also a picture what Christ did for sinners. Christ is our life and He cleanses us. He did both. By being buried in the water we are picturing being buried with Christ when He died on the cross. When our sins were laid on Him, God then punished Him with death, because remember "the wages of sin is death." Where there is sin there must be death. That is the penalty of sin. The coming up out of the water pictures us being raised with Christ from the dead. See, death only has a hold on those who still have sin, but Christ died and rose again.

That means all my sins that were laid on Him are paid for and gone, so baptism is a beautiful picture of what Christ did to save His people. He died and rose again and by doing that gave me life and cleansed me from all my sins. What a simple and beautiful picture! (Romans 6: 3-7)

The next thing Baptism is a dedication. We talked about what a dedication was. For example: A few of you have friends and relatives who are in public service. They are fire fighters, policemen, government, military etc... When you take on one of these jobs, for example, the military, you take an oath and you are given a uniform. By taking this oath and putting on this military uniform you are saying you believe in and support all that that job stands for. By putting on the fire fighters uniform and carrying a badge you are telling everybody around you that you are a protector of the public and accept all that comes with that job. By putting on the policeman's uniform you are identifying yourself as being a person who protects and serves the public, and you accept all that comes with that job. Baptism is a "putting on of the uniform" in a sorts. By going through believer's baptism you are identifying yourself with Christ and what He did. What did Christ do? He kept the law perfectly; He died for His people's sins; and He was raised from the dead. When you go through believer's baptism you are telling everybody around you that you identify yourself with Christ and what He did. You are saying you are a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ. You are saying you no longer follow after the ways of the world but the ways and teachings of Christ. You are saying Christ died for your sins, and you accept all that comes with what Christ did. You are identifying yourself as a Christian, a follower of Christ, and you have no other hope before God but Christ's death and payment of your sins.

Baptism is also a public confession. A marriage ceremony is an example of a public confession. When you have a marriage ceremony to tell everybody around you and the world that you love that person and you are dedicating your entire life and work to that person. You are creating a union with that person. You are saying they are the most important person in your life and you are now willing to take care of that person as you would care for yourself. It is a public confession of love. What if you say you do love someone but you refuse to marry them, what would that say about your love for that



person? It would say you don't really love them. Love dedicates itself to its object and puts no other in front of it. By refusing to go through the marriage ceremony you are saying you don't really want to dedicate your life and become united and become one with that person. Are you REQUIRED to get married if you love someone? No. However, what does it say about your love for that person if you refuse to unite and marry them? It would say you don't really love them. By refusing to go through the marriage ceremony you are saying you don't really want to dedicate your life and become one with that person. Believer's baptism is also a public confession. You are saying you believe in Christ and all that He did for you. You are saying your hope for your salvation is solely of him and nowhere else. You are saying you are in a union with Christ and your life is in Him and you will have no other.

Do you have to be baptized in order to be saved? No. The Bible does not teach that. It teaches you must believe but it does not say you must be baptized. The Scriptures do say believers should submit to believer's baptism. Is there anything that hinders you from doing it? If the answer is no, then you should submit to it. What are you saying if you refuse to do it? If nothing hinders you from doing it, then by refusing to go through the ordinance of baptism you are saying you don't really believe in or want to be united and identified with Christ. If you are a believer of Christ and He is your Lord, then the ordinance of Baptism honors Him and publicly declares He is your Lord, and it is good that we do it.

Mark 16:16... "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." May God give us the ability to believe in Christ and what He has done. May the Lord help us to believe His payment for our sins is all we need and we rest solely on Him and count all else but nothing. May God give us peace in knowing that what Baptism pictures is how a sinner is saved and receives eternal life and a sinner needs nothing else. Lastly, may God give us the ability to honor Him in that wonderful ordinance of believer's Baptism.







