

God's Plan of Salvation:

1. Hear - Romans 10:17
2. Believe - Mark 16:16
3. Repent - Acts 2:38
4. Confess - Romans 10:10
5. Be baptized - Acts 22:16
6. Live faithfully - Revelation 2:10

Announcements:

Sick: Mrs. Carswell, Mr. Dowling, Mr. Hadley, Ms. Kim (Ashley Law's mother), Lamar Mathis, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Newsome, Mrs. Owens, Ms. Ward, Mr. Winns.

If you would be interested in any of the following ways to study the Bible, feel free to let us know:

- Home Bible Study - We will come into your home or other place you feel comfortable and study the Bible with you. Bible questions are welcome in these studies and we will seek to give a Bible answer.
- Correspondence courses - We will be glad to mail you a correspondence lesson that you can fill out and mail back to us and we will send you the next lesson.
- Call us with your Bible question - #503-707-6014.
- Visit our website: www.oakgrovechurchofchristjenningsflorida.com
- Come and visit - We always strive to have good, practical Bible instruction at each of our assemblies.

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Instructions About Baptism for Christians

By Derek Long

Baptism is a topic of importance for the person who has not yet been saved. The Bible teaches baptism is the point at which one is saved (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21) receiving the remission of sins (Acts 2:38) and has their sins washed away (Acts 22:16). Baptism's importance is seen in the fact when people were taught about the gospel throughout the book of Acts those who were receptive to the message were immediately baptized (Acts 2:41; 8:36-39; 16:30-34). Sadly many lost people are taught today that baptism is not essential to being saved. Such results in a lot of misunderstanding regarding the Bible's teaching on baptism.

The New Testament epistles written to people who were already Christians and had already been baptized give us a lot of information about the subject of baptism as well. Baptism is not a topic we should reserve simply for those who have never obeyed the gospel. Christians profit from a study of baptism and its significance as well. What are some of the things we learn about baptism from these statements made about baptism to Christians?

- Baptism places one into Christ Jesus (Romans 6:3; Galatians 3:27). Baptism is how one enters into a relationship with

Jesus Christ. Prior to baptism one is outside of Christ. When one is baptized, they are in Christ and receive all spiritual blessings found in Him (Ephesians 1:3-14).

- Baptism is into Jesus' death (Romans 6:3). Baptism is where one comes into contact with the benefits of Jesus' death. Jesus died to make salvation possible but the only way to avail ourselves of the benefits of Jesus' sacrifice one must be baptized into His death.
- Baptism reenacts Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6:4). As Jesus died, was buried, and arose, a person is buried with Christ putting to death the old man of sin and rises from baptism to a new life. A person is expected to stop living a life of sin and start living for righteousness when they are baptized and die to sin. Colossians 2:12-13, 20; 3:1 also speak of baptism in terms of being buried and raised with Christ. Baptism is when God forgives us of our sins. Dying with Christ means we are to not live in the world any longer. Rising with Christ means we should be focused on heavenly things.
- Baptism places one into the one body (1 Corinthians 12:13). The one body we were baptized into is the church (Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18, 24). Baptism is the point at which the Lord adds one to His church (Acts 2:41, 47). The fact we have been baptized into one body also places us into relationship with other Christians with responsibilities toward them.
- Ephesians 4:5 teaches there is only one baptism. Ephesians 4:4-6 lists several important and essential things. People who think baptism is unessential while insisting the other

things on this list are important are inconsistent. The fact all Christians have submitted to the same baptism is something all Christians everywhere share in common and should be a source of unity among them. Differences regarding what the Bible teaches about baptism undermines the unity of the Spirit we should be endeavoring to keep.

- 1 Peter 3:21-22 teaches baptism saves people today just as Noah and his family were saved from an ungodly world by the waters of the flood.