



Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

MATTHEW 28:19

And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip opened his mouth and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

ACTS 8:34-40

BE BAPTIZED

WHAT IS IT?

Baptism means to immerse. It symbolizes a number of significant realities:

- ▶ Christ's death, burial, and resurrection.
- ▶ Cleansing and washing away of our sin.
- ▶ The believer's union with Christ in His death and resurrection.
- ▶ The new life in which a believer walks.

Baptism is for the believer who has expressed they have repented from their former ways and are now following Jesus Christ as Lord of their life. It is not an act of salvation. Salvation is by faith and faith alone.

The person is immersed in the water symbolizing they have been immersed into a death of their former sins. Then they are brought back up through the water symbolizing they are now alive in Christ.

It is following the command and example set by Jesus.

Baptism is also a participatory event with one's community of faith. As the person is baptized, their community is being reminded of the greater story of Christ's work on the cross.

HOW CAN WE DO IT?

It is an amazing picture of making disciples when you lead them to Christ and then you baptize them.

- ▶ You just need a body of water someone can be fully immersed in, for example a pool, tub, lake, or at the church building.
- ▶ We suggest sharing their story, and then right before you baptize the person say something like "Since you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, I baptize you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit."
- ▶ The individual being baptized should bend their knees and then should use one of their hands to plug their nostrils, so water doesn't come rushing up in their nose.
- ▶ This is a celebration of new life in Christ, so when the believer comes up out of the water, CELEBRATE!