



Proclaim the Gospel - Baptized

In those days John the Baptist came to the Judean wilderness and began preaching. His message was, "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near. People from Jerusalem and from all of Judea and all over the Jordan Valley went out to see and hear John. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming to watch him baptize, he denounced them. "You brood of snakes!" he exclaimed. "Who warned you to flee God's coming wrath? Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God. Don't just say to each other, 'We're safe, for we are descendants of Abraham.' That means nothing, for I tell you, God can create children of Abraham from these very stones. I baptize with water those who repent of their sins and turn to God. Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?" But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize him. After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy." – **Matthew 3 (NLT)**

- **What...**
 - Is Baptism?
 - A Celebration of your salvation and identification with the family of God, of which you are now a member.

...lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowances for each other's faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism...**Ephesians 4:1-5 (NLT)**

- A public declaration of your new Christian life.
- A picture of the Gospel that we have now experienced.

Baptism by the spirit (John 1:33; 1 Corinthians 12:13) is illustrated in our Baptism by water (Colossians 2:11-12)

- **Who...**
 - should be baptized?
 - **Best biblical answer:** those who have repented from their sins and give a believable profession of faith in Christ as their Savior and Lord. (**Acts 2:41; 8:12; 10:44-48; 16:14-15**)
 - should perform the baptism?
 - **Best biblical answer:** a disciple of Christ. (**Matthew 28:19**)
- **What...**
 - method of baptism should be used?
 - **Best biblical answer:** by immersion. The Greek word 'baptizo' means 'to plunge, dip, immerse' something in water.
- **When...**
 - should someone get baptized?
 - **Best biblical answer:** once you receive the message of Christ, then as soon as possible. (**Acts 9:18**)
- **Why...**
 - should I be baptized?
 - **Best biblical answer:** not to be saved, but to follow Christ's example and be obedient to your Lord.

Life Truth: Baptism is a defining moment that should reflect the joy of Christ in You.