



Understanding Believer’s Baptism

04.19.2026

Main Passage: Matthew 28:19

The Debate:

Paedobaptism- sprinkling children

Credobaptism- dunking believers

1) Why is Baptism Important?

[Matt. 28:18-20; Matt. 26:26-30; Eph. 2:1; Acts 10:44-49]

- Jesus punctuates the importance of baptism by including it in the Great Commission. After someone has been converted by the grace of God, the first step of Christian obedience is to be baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Baptism is one of two ordinances of the church (communion is the other).

- a. **Ordinance of the Church** (Matt. 28:19)
- b. **Symbolism of Death to Life** (Rom. 6:3,4)
- c. **Obedience to God** (Acts 10:48)

A. What is the difference between primary and secondary issues in doctrine? Is baptism a primary or secondary issue? _____

B. Explain the difference between sacrament and ordinance. _____

C. What was your life like before you “came out of the grave?” _____

D. What is your attitude towards the ordinance of baptism for yourself and/or others? Are you driving “the roads of Christianity” as one who is ignoring the importance of baptism? _____

2) Who Should Be Baptized?

[Matt.13:22, 23; Luke 9:26]

Bapto (verb)- to dip // *Baptizo* (verb)- to immerse

Baptismal Regeneration- the heretical teaching that baptism is necessary for salvation (a teaching found in the Church of Christ denomination)

- The life of the person claiming Christ should be evaluated to determine if they should be baptized; this is for the benefit of the individual and the church to make sure they have gospel clarity- the gospel is the power unto salvation.

- a. **Adults** (Matt. 13:22)

b. **Believers-Post Conversion** (Acts 16:30-34)

c. **Immersion** (Acts 8:34-39)

d. **Into the Church** (1 Cor. 12:13)

E. Explain the difference between a child's faith and saving faith. _____

F. Often, fear of man is the reason people walk in disobedience regarding baptism. What area(s) of your life are influenced by fear of man? _____

G. The word of God renews our minds and challenges our thinking. How have the scriptures taught in this sermon renewed your mind or challenged you regarding the ordinance of baptism? _____

H. If you have been baptized by immersion, you have been baptized into the bride of Christ, which means you should be a member of your local church. How would you describe your relationship and commitment to *The Grove*? How could this be strengthened? _____