

Series: DNA of a Disciple
Sermon: Baptism and Witness
Speaker: Pastor Jerry Gillis

Daily Readings

Monday: Matthew 28

Tuesday: Acts 2

Wednesday: Romans 6

Thursday: 1st Peter 3

Friday: 1st Corinthians 12

Saturday: John 15 / Acts 1

Discussion Questions

1. In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus grounds the command to baptize in his authority over heaven and earth. Why does the "therefore" matter? How does Jesus's authority change how we understand baptism, not as a ritual, but as a declaration?
2. Romans 6:3-4 describes baptism as being buried and raised with Christ. In what practical ways do you feel you are "living a new life"? Where are you still stepping out of the old one?
3. Baptism is described as witness, a "living picture" for those who have been baptized: what were you hoping your baptism would say to the people watching? For those that haven't been baptized: what has held you back, and what would it mean to take that step?
4. Acts 2:41 says the newly baptized were "added to their number." In what ways does your community group feel like that kind of community — and in what ways might you grow toward it?
5. If someone asked you over coffee, "What is baptism and why does it matter?" — what would you say? Practice answering in two or three sentences. Share with the group.

Action Steps

1. If you have been baptized, write down or share with one person what your baptism meant to you and what it still means today. If you have never been baptized as a believer, contact the church this week to ask how to take that step. Don't let another Sunday pass without moving forward.
2. Peter pleaded publicly in Acts 2:40. This week, identify one person in your life who doesn't yet know Jesus and pray for an opportunity to naturally share what your faith means to you — not a rehearsed speech, just an honest witness. Pray for them by name each day this week.