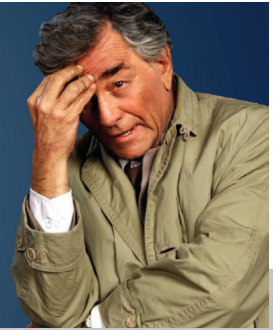


Weekend of June 22/23

# JUST ONE MORE THING BAPTISM



## Take the Plunge

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit....”  
Matthew 28:18

## Believer's Baptism by Immersion

**Believe, Obey & Take the Plunge**

### Faith @ Home Conversation:

1. What is the biggest reason people give for not getting baptized?
2. What is the biggest reason for getting baptized?

# About Believer's Baptism - Q & A

## Why should I Be Baptized?

- **To follow the example set by Jesus.**  
*"At that time Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized by John in the river."*  
Mark 1:9
- **Because Christ commands it.**  
*"Jesus said, 'Go then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples, baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and then teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.'" Matthew 29:19-20*
- **It demonstrates that I really am a believer.**  
*"...many people who heard Him believed and were baptized." Acts 18:8*

## What is the meaning of baptism?

- **It illustrates Christ's death and resurrection.**  
*"Christ died for our sins...He was buried and He rose again." 1 Cor. 15:3-4*  
*"For when you are baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ." Colossians 2:12*
- **It illustrates my new life as a Christian.**  
*"When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. The old life has passed away and a new life has begun." 2 Corinthians 5:17*  
*"By our baptism then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead...so also we may live a new life!" Romans 6:4*

## Why be baptized by immersion?

- **Because Jesus was baptized that way.**  
*"As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water." Matthew 3:16*
- **Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion.**  
*"...then both Philip and the man went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water..." Acts 8:38-39*
- **The word "baptize" means "to dip under water". The Greek word "baptize" means "to immerse or dip under water".**
- **It symbolizes a burial and resurrection!**

## Who should be baptized?

- **Every person who has believed in Christ.**  
*"Those who believed and accepted His message were baptized." Acts 2:41*  
*"Simon himself believed and was baptized..." Acts 8:13*

## When should I Be Baptized?

- **As soon as you have believed!**  
*"Those who believed...were baptized...that day!" Acts 2:41*

## **About Believer's Baptism** - *(continued from reverse)*

Baptism doesn't make you a believer - it shows that you already believe. Baptism doesn't "save" you - only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism is like a wedding ring. It's the outward symbol of the commitment you've already made in your heart.

**At The Journey Church** we wait until our children are old enough to believe and understand the true meaning of baptism before we baptize them. Some churches practice a "baptism of confirmation" for children. This ceremony is intended to be a covenant between parents and God on behalf of the child. The parents promise to raise their child in the faith until the child is old enough to make his or her own personal confession of Christ. This custom began about 300 years after the Bible was completed. This is different from the baptism talked about in the Bible, which was only for those old enough to believe. The purpose is to publically confess your personal commitment to Christ.

**At The Journey Church** it is a membership requirement that every member must have been baptized the way Jesus demonstrated, even though many of us were confirmed as children.

### **Is God speaking to you today?**

If you sense God is speaking to you, and you want to take this step of publically expressing your faith in Jesus, people are waiting to receive you and will show you where to go and what to do.

### **After I get baptized, what's next?**

Everyone who is baptized needs to attend our Belong Seminar where we discuss what it means to follow Jesus and belong to this community of Christ's followers. Please understand that when you obey this command of Jesus', not only are you saying you belong to Christ, but to His Church as well. Therefore you have become a member of this church.

# Journey

BELONG

Belong Seminars are held regularly throughout the ministry year. Watch for the next one in the Fall of 2013.