

FIRST STEPS

UNDERSTANDING SALVATION & BAPTISM

For Kids at Highlands
Community Church

INTRODUCTION

In this study you will learn what it means to be a Christian and the meaning of baptism.

The Bible is the instruction book that God has given us to know how to live our lives. It gives two specific commands to Christians: be baptized and remember Christ's sacrifice through communion.

There are several reasons why a Christian should be baptized. First, Jesus was baptized. He tells us in Matthew 28:19-20 that he wants us to baptize others. Second, following Christ is a big decision. Placing your trust in Him and being baptized lets others know you believe God is real. And third, baptism is a powerful symbol of what Jesus did for us, paying the penalty for our sin.

It is important to remember that being baptized is not what saves us. Trusting in Jesus is what saves us. Baptism is simply an outward representation of what we have chosen on the inside.

As you work through this study, you might have questions. Be sure to write them down and talk with your parents about them.

"For God so loved YOU that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."

[John 3:16]

WHAT IS SIN?

1. Have you ever shot a bow and arrow? If you have, then you understand what the word "sin" means—to miss the mark. When you shoot an arrow your goal is to hit the middle of the target. If you hit the mark, it is considered a perfect shot. However, if you miss the mark of perfection in life, it is called sin. In the Bible sin means that a person has missed the perfect mark that God has for their life. It's easy to see what that word means since we are less than perfect. Jesus was the only perfect person in this world. He never sinned. We, on the other hand, sin every day and need forgiveness. Jesus provides us the gift of forgiveness.
2. According to Romans 3:23 who has sinned?
3. Romans 6:23 says we get paid something for sinning. What is our "wage" for sin?
4. Read 1 John 1:9. What does "confess your sins" mean?
5. Since sin needs to be forgiven, how did Jesus take our sin away?

SALVATION FIRST

6. Take a few minutes and write a note to Jesus thanking Him for forgiving your sins.

7. Choose one of the verses in this lesson and explain why this verse is important to you in your walk with God.

8. How will your life be different because of what you have learned about sin?

1. What does it mean to be saved?

2. Read Romans 3:23. Why do you need to be saved?

3. Read Romans 5:12. The Bible says we all sin. What is the punishment for your sin?

4. Read Romans 5:8. How did Jesus pay for your sin?

5. Read Romans 10:13. Rewrite this verse in your own words.

6. Are you saved? Explain your answer.

OBEDIENCE NEXT

1. Read Matthew 28:19-20. What commands are given?
2. What things are we to do?
3. Who is Jesus talking to in these verses?
4. Read John 14:15 & 21. What are Jesus' disciples to do?
5. How do you know you are one of Jesus' disciples?
6. What should you do to obey Jesus?
7. Read Acts 8:5 & 12. What does proclaim mean?
8. What was Philip proclaiming?
9. Who proclaimed Jesus to you?
10. What did you hear from that person?
11. Read Acts 8:12 again. What happened after Philip preached?
12. What will you do after hearing Jesus proclaimed?

MATTHEW 28:19–20

Fill in the blanks.

“___ therefore and make
_____ of all
_____, baptizing them
in the _____ of the
_____ and of the
_____ and of the _____ Spirit,
_____ them to
_____ all that I have
_____ you. And
behold, I _____ with _____ always,
to the _____ of the _____.”

[Matthew 28: ___ & ___]

EXAMPLES OF BAPTISM

1. Read Acts 16:13-15. List what Lydia did.

Lydia w_____ God.

Lydia b_____ Paul's message about Jesus.

Lydia was b_____.

2. What example does Jesus set for us in Matthew 3:13-17?

3. What can you learn from Jesus' example?

FROM FAITH TO BAPTISM

4. Acts 8:26-39 tells us about a man from Ethiopia. Fill in the blanks.

The Ethiopian was sitting in his _____
reading I _____ the prophet. (verse 28)

The Ethiopian invited P _____ to come sit with
him and teach him. (verse 31)

Philip told the Ethiopian the g _____ n _____ about
Jesus. (verse 35)

As they traveled along, they came to some water.

The Ethiopian asked Philip to b _____ him!
(verse 38)

After the Holy Spirit took Philip away, the Ethiopian went
on his way r _____! (verse 39)

1. Read Acts 10:47-48. What should every believer do once they accept Christ as their Savior?
2. How should all Christians show their faith and obedience to Jesus?
3. How should you show your faith and obedience to Jesus?
4. What verse would you use to convince a believer he or she should be baptized? You may look back through the questions to find a verse.
Write out the verse.

AT HIGHLANDS WE BELIEVE

We believe that baptism does not make someone saved, but is an outward action which comes after being saved. [Acts 2:41]

Jesus showed us that baptism is a very important way a Christian can show his or her obedience to God. [Matthew 28:19]

We believe that baptism by water is taught in the New Testament as a symbol of our faith in Jesus Christ. Baptism shows others we believe in Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection.

MY STORY

1. How old are you?
2. Where do you go to school?
3. Who is your class teacher at church?
4. Who is helping you to follow Jesus?
5. What is the most important thing you have learned about Jesus?
6. What is your favorite memory verse?
7. What do you want to be when you grow up?

MY BAPTISM

1. When did you accept Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior?
2. How can you follow the command to “make disciples”? (Matthew 28:19)
3. Memorize Matthew 28:19-20. Did you do it?
4. What is the promise you can count on in Matthew 28:20?
5. Why do you want to be baptized?

SOUND IT OUT

B

Baptism cannot get you to heaven
We can only get to heaven through our faith in Jesus.
Read Ephesians 2:8-9.

A

Act of obedience
Matthew 28:18-20 tells us to obey all the commands
that Jesus gave us.

P

Picture of Christ’s death, burial & resurrection
Read Colossians 2:12 for the big picture.

T

Those who believe in Christ
Only those who have asked Christ into their hearts
need to be baptized.

I

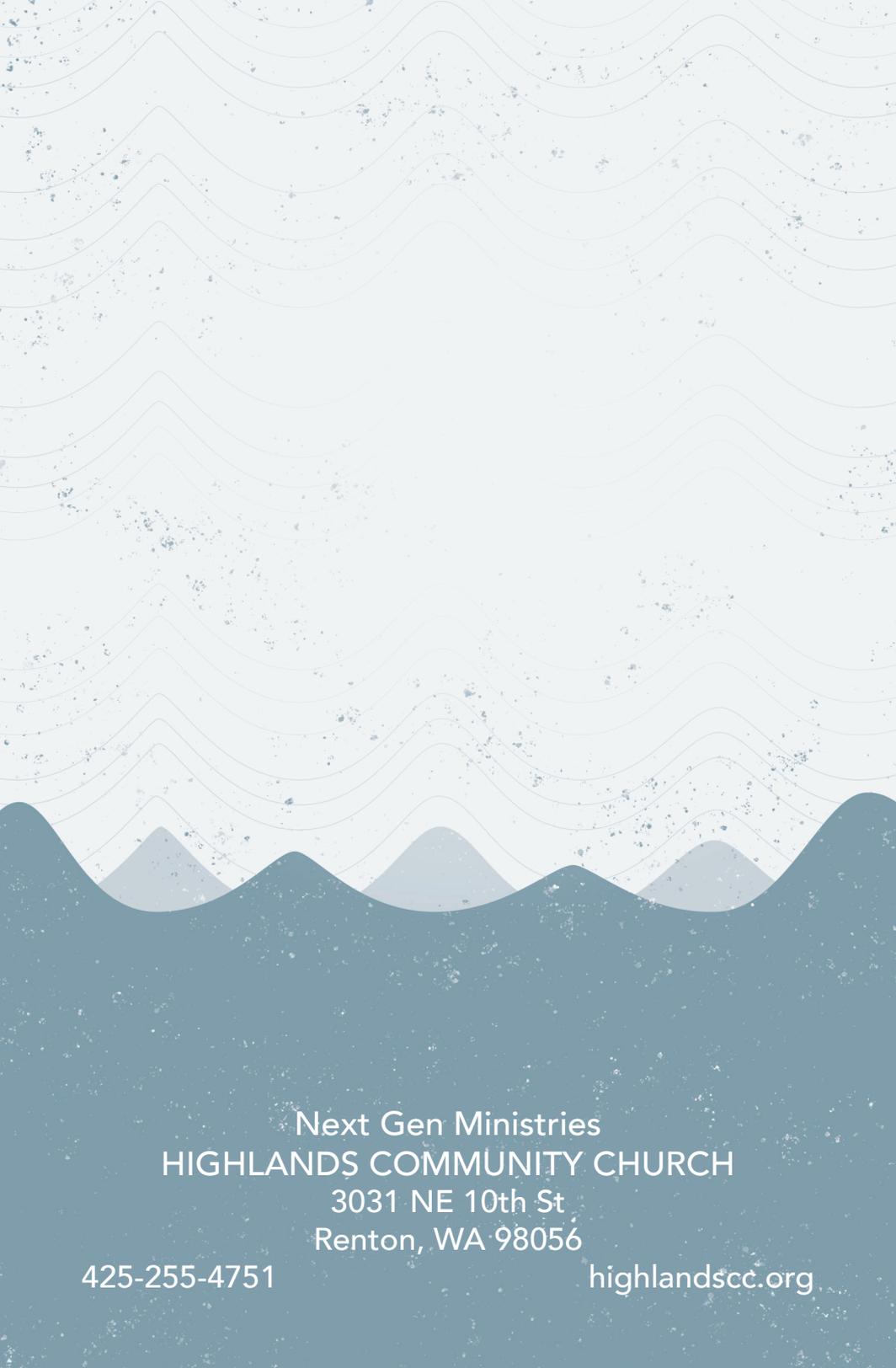
Identifies you with Christ
According to Romans 6:4, we are connected with
Christ when we are baptized.

S

Symbol of belief
When we are baptized, we represent Christ dying,
being buried, and then being raised from the dead
on the third day when we go under the water and
come back up again. Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-4.

M

Must be underwater
God was pleased with Jesus’ baptism. He showed His
Son how much He loved him when Jesus came up
out of the water. It is described in Matthew 3:16-17.

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