

# The Christian and Baptism

As we learned, an important work of the Holy Spirit is that He baptizes us into the body of Christ at the moment we trust in Jesus Christ for our salvation. This is sometimes referred to as our spiritual baptism. The fact that spiritual baptism is performed by the Holy Spirit to initiate us into Christ's body (1 Corinthians 12:13), explains why we are never commanded to be baptized in the Spirit. We are commanded, however, to be filled with the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 5:18). Unlike our spiritual baptism, water baptism is something believers are commanded to take part in (Matthew 28:19). This week we will study what water baptism is and how, why and when Christians should take part in this important step of obedience.

1. What is water baptism?

- Identifying with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6:1-4)

2. Why do we baptize?

- We are commanded (Matthew 28:18-20)

3. How do we baptize?

- "BAPTIZO" = (1) to dip, immerse, (2) to initiate

4. Based on the following scriptures, complete the following table:

<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Who was baptized?</u>	<u>What preceded baptism?</u>	<u>Delay?</u>
Acts 2:41	3000 believers	Accepted the gospel	No
Acts 8:12	Men & women	Believed the good news	No
Acts 8:34-38	Ethiopian Eunuch	Heard & received the good news	No
Acts 9:17-18	Paul	Filled with the Holy Spirit	No
Acts 10:47-48	Gentiles	Received the Holy Spirit	No
Acts 16:14-15	Lydia & household	Opened their heart to receive gospel	No
Acts 16:25-33	Jailer & household	Heard & believed God's Word	No
Acts 18:8	Crispus &	Heard the message & believed	No

	others		
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5. If baptism is the first step for a believer following Christ, why would a believer not get baptized?

- Does not understand the importance of obedience
- Chooses not to do it
- Afraid to do it