



If you love me, obey my commands.  
John 14:15 (CAT)

## THE IMPORTANCE OF BAPTISM

### Why Should I Be Baptized?

**1. To follow the example set by \_\_\_\_\_.**  
*At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.<sup>10</sup> Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.<sup>11</sup> And a voice came from*

*heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."*  
Mark 1:9-11 (NIV)

### **2. Because Christ \_\_\_\_\_ it.**

*Jesus said: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.* Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

### **3. It demonstrates that I really am a \_\_\_\_\_.**

*"...Many...who heard... believed and were baptized."* Acts 18:8b (NIV)

*We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands.<sup>4</sup>Whoever says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person.<sup>5</sup> But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him:<sup>6</sup> Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.* 1 John 2:3-6 (NIV)

### What is the Meaning of Baptism?

**1. It illustrates Christ's \_\_\_\_\_.**  
*For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,<sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,* 1 Corinthians 15:3-4(NIV)

*Having been buried with [Christ] in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.* Colossians 2:12 (NIV)

### **2. It illustrates that I now \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ.**

*For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.* Galatians 3:27 (NIV)

### **3. It illustrates my \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.**

*We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?<sup>3</sup> Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?<sup>4</sup> We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.* Romans 6:2b-4 (NIV)

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!* 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.* Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

### Why Be Baptized by Immersion?

#### **1. Because \_\_\_\_\_ was baptized that way.**

*As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him.<sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."* Matthew 3:16-17 (NIV)

#### **2. Other baptisms in the \_\_\_\_\_ follow this pattern.**

*And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.<sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.* Acts 8:38-39 (NIV)

#### **3. The word "baptize" means to "\_\_\_\_\_ in water".**

The Greek word is βαπτίζω (*baptizō*).

### Who Should Be Baptized?

#### **1. All who have \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus Christ and \_\_\_\_\_ of their sins.**

*<sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"*

*<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." <sup>40</sup> With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup> Those who accepted his message were baptized,* Acts 2:37-41a (NIV)