

One Baptism

Light & Darkness

OPENING QUESTION: How does someone become a Christian/disciple of Jesus?

1 Peter 2:9-10 *Light & Darkness*

What describes a person in darkness? (Not a people of God, no mercy)

What describes a person in the light? (people of God, received mercy)

Everyone is either in the darkness or the light, there is NO grey area. How does one go from darkness to light? Let's study it out:

PART I: DARKNESS

Isaiah 59:1-10 *Sin separates one from God*

What does sin do? (Use example of wall – see **v. 10**)

What needs to happen in order for someone to be with God?

At what point in time is a person saved?

Galatians 5:19-21 *Examples of Sin*

What are the consequences of living a life of sin?

Which sins are separating you from God?

Any specific situations you need prayer and help to overcome?

Confession and prayer can lead to healing (See **James 5:16**)

Romans 5:6-11 *All have sinned*

Who has sinned? (All – See **Romans 3:23**)

What does sin lead to? (Death – See **Romans 6:23**)

What does our sin cause us to be? (Helpless, sinners, enemies of God)

Did Jesus die for us because we deserved it or because we needed it?

How can we become righteous and reconciled? (Through his blood and his death!)

PART II: LIGHT

Mark 16:15-16 *Conversion: Belief & Baptism*

Who does Jesus say will be saved? (Those who believe and are baptized)
What does one have to believe prior to baptism? (The gospel – see Cross study)
Jesus tells his disciples to go preach the gospel to everyone, look at the first converts:

Acts 2:36-41 *Conversion: Repentance & Baptism*

What should one do once they have faith and conviction (“cut to the heart”) about Jesus being crucified? What do we receive after repenting and being baptized?
Is this the point in time that one is saved?

2 Corinthians 7:8-11 *Definition of Repentance*

What does godly sorrow about one’s sin lead to? What does worldly sorrow lead to?
Do you understand what repentance means? (Change of mind → Change of action)
What does repentance lead to? What are the characteristics of repentance?

Romans 6:1-5 *Definition of Baptism*

What is baptism? (Greek – immersion, plunge, dip)
Do you see how baptism is at once the burial of your old life and the beginning of your new life in Christ?
When we participate in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus (by being baptized), what do we come in contact with? (His blood!)

Personal Decisions:

Where are you right now: in the light or in the darkness?
Do you see how the Scriptures show that faith, repentance and baptism (in that order) are all necessary for salvation? Do you believe the gospel? Have you repented and begun living like a disciple of Jesus? Are you ready to make Jesus Lord of your life and be baptized into Christ?

Homework: Read the following study on your own about New Testament Conversions (attached below). Ask someone to go over it with you if you have any questions.

Suggestions: Choose a day for prayer and fasting; Choose a date/time to be baptized!

New Testament Conversions

1. Conversion stories in Acts

A. Conversions: Read the following conversion stories and answer the questions below (B) regarding each one.

1. **Acts 2:32-47** First Christians in Jerusalem
 2. **Acts 8:26-39** Ethiopian Eunuch
 3. **Acts 16:9-15** Lydia and her household
 4. **Acts 16:16-34** Philippian jailer and his family
 5. **Acts 9:1-20** Saul/Paul
- Acts 22:1-16**

B. Questions concerning Conversions

1. What was preached?
2. What was the person's (people's) response to the message?
3. How long did the person (people) take to make the decision?
4. What was their response after baptism?

2. Your conversion story

A. Born again = born of water and Spirit

1. Read **John 3:1-8**
2. Do you want to be born again and enter the kingdom of God?

B. Questions concerning your conversion

1. Do you believe in Jesus? Have you repented and begun living like a disciple of Jesus? What would hold you back from being baptized into Christ?
2. If you still have questions concerning baptism's place in the conversion process, read the verses below:

3. Additional Illustrations of Baptism

- A. **Galatians 3:26-28** Clothe ourselves with Christ
- B. **Colossians 2:9-12** Raised from the dead
- C. **I Peter 3:18-22** It saves you