

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?

Romans 3:23-25 *All have sinned*

Who has sinned? Have you ever sinned?

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

Can/Does a good moral life save you?

What can lead to salvation?

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?

PART II: Light

John 3:1-8 *Born of water and Spirit*

What is necessary to enter the Kingdom of God (Light)?
What does it mean to be “born again?” (Born of water and Spirit)

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 response should our faith in Jesus have?
What is the answer Peter gives? Do you know what repentance means?
What do we receive after repenting and being baptized?
Is this the point in time that one is saved?

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

Suggestions: Choose a day for prayer and fasting; Read the following study on your
own about New Testament Conversions (attached). Ask someone to go over it with
you if you have any questions. Choose a date/time to be baptized!

NT 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. Repentance

1. Read **2 Corinthians 7:8-11**
2. Do you understand what repentance means?

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. **1 Peter 3:18-22** It saves you