



Core Values Discipleship Lesson

Water Baptism

Discovery Bible Study – Matthew 3:1-12

Background –

What does this passage SAY?

- What verse is God highlighting to you? What is He saying?
- What is the main point of this passage?
- What does it say about God? About you?

What do you need to OBEY?

- What is one thing God speaking to you to do this week?
- What needs to change this week for you to obey?

Who is one person who you need to SHARE this message(s) with this week?

Teaching guides

Baptism is a picture/reminder of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. It is a symbolic act through immersion in water. When we go down under the water, it reminds us that our old self (our sin) has been buried with Jesus. When we come up out of the water, it reminds us that we have been raised with Jesus to a new life.

- Baptism is also a special sign to God and others that we love Jesus and want to follow Him. When people marry, they often take on a sign that expresses to their spouse and others that they are married. When you follow Jesus, you want to say to God and everyone else how much you love Him and want to belong to Him only. It does not have the power to forgive sin, but water baptism is the public confession that you believe in Jesus. Baptism is not optional, but the first command Jesus has given new believers (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38).
- It is what the New Testament word baptism means (to be dipped or immersed).
- It pictures death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6:3-4).
- John the Baptist used “much water” (John 3:23).
- As soon as possible after believing.
- All commands to be baptized are immediate.
- All baptisms in Acts were immediate (ie. Acts 8:35-38; Acts 10:44-48).