



# BAPTISM & COMMUNION

**Intro:** How many have been baptized?  
As a baby? A kid? Adult?

## BAPTISM

**TODAY:** 2 **ordinances** or **symbols** passed on in NT:  
Learn Hows. Whys & whats of **BAPTISM & COMMUNION**

### I. WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

A. To follow the example set by **CHRIST**.

**Note:** Jesus set an example for us."

**Mark 1:9** At that time Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized by John in the river.

**Matthew 3:15** But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

B. Because Christ **COMMANDED** it.

**Matthew 28:19-20** Jesus said, 'Go then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples, baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and then teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.'

C. It demonstrates that I really am a **BELIEVER**.

**Acts 18:8** ...many of the people who heard Him believed and were baptized.

**1 John 2:3** We know that we have come to know Him, if we obey His commands.

**Note:** Natural response of Christian or expression is to obey.  
**Why haven't you?**

### II. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM?

A. It illustrates Christ's **BURIAL** and resurrection.

**1 Corinthians 15:3-4** Christ died for our sins...He was buried...and He rose again.

**Colossians 2:12** For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ.

B. It illustrates my **NEW LIFE** as a Christian.

**Symbolic !**

**1 Corinthians 5:17** When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. The old life has passed away and a new life begun!

**Romans 6:4** By our baptism then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead...so also we may live a new life!

C. Baptism doesn't make you a believer - it shows that you already believe. Baptism does not "save" you, only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism is like a **wedding ring** - it's the outward symbol of the commitment you made in your heart.

**Represents:** Death / Burial & Resurrection of Jesus

### III. WHY BE BAPTIZED BY IMMERSION?

A. Because **JESUS** was baptized that way.

**Matthew 3:16** As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up **out of the water**.

B. Every water baptism in the **BIBLE** was by immersion.

**Ex:** Raymond in Oklahoma

- Example ...then both Philip and the man went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water... ( **Acts 8:38** )
- The Greek word "baptizo" means "to immerse, dip or submerge"; It best symbolizes a death and resurrection!
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### IV. WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

A. Every person who has a **BELIEF** in Christ.

**Acts 2:41** Those who believed and accepted His message were baptized...

**Acts 8:13** Simon himself believed and was baptized...

**Acts 8:12** But when they believed Philip as he preached the Good News...and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

## V. WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

- A. As soon as you have **BELIEVED!**

**Acts 2:41** Those who believed...were baptized...that day!

**Also:** Acts 16:33 – Philippian Jailer

## COMMUNION / THE LORD'S SUPPER / BREAKING OF BREAD

### I. WHAT IS THE LORD'S SUPPER? (I Corinthians 11:23-26)

- A. It is a **SIMPLE ACT**.

The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread... (vs. 23)

- B. It is a **REMINDER**. **Note:** To remember what he has done for us...

...and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; eat it in remembrance of me.' (vs.24)

- C. It is a **SYMBOL**.

In the same way, He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; drink it to remember me.' (vs. 25)

- D. It is a **STATEMENT OF FAITH**.

For whenever you eat the bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes back.

(vs. 26) **Note:** We will party in heaven! ;-)

### II. Who Should Take The Lord's Supper?

- A. Only those who are already **BELIEVERS**.

**Mark 14:22-26** While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, and they all drank from it. "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. "I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God."

**I Corinthians 11:29** For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment upon himself.

### III. How Do I Prepare Myself For The Lord's Supper?

**I Corinthians 11:27-28** Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A person ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup **Note:** Magnifying glass NOT Microscope!

- A. By...
- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <b>SELF</b> -Examination | (I Corinthians 11:27) |
| 2. Acknowledging my sins    | (I John 1:7-10)       |
| 3. Recommitment             | (Romans 12:1)         |
| 4. Restoring relationships  | (Matthew 5:23 – 24)   |

### IV. When and How Often Should We Observe The Lord's Supper?

- A. Jesus never said when or how **OFTEN** believers should observe The Lord's Supper. He instituted it on a Thursday night. Since it is a 'supper', it may seem more appropriate to observe it at an evening service. At The Rock, we currently schedule a corporate communion once a month during our weekend worship services.