

Understanding Baptism – Small Group Discussion Guide

Primary Text: Matthew 3:13–17

Warm-Up

Have you ever attended or participated in a baptism that left a strong impression on you? What stood out?

When you hear the word baptism, what feelings or memories come to mind?

Observation – What Does the Text Say?

Why does Jesus come to John to be baptized?

How does John initially respond?

What happens immediately after Jesus is baptized?

What do we learn about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Interpretation – What Does It Mean?

Why Are Christians Baptized?

It is the example of Jesus (Matthew 3:16).

It is the command of Jesus (Matthew 28:19–20).

What Must a Person Do Before Being Baptized?

Believe in the Lord Jesus (Acts 16:31–34).

Repent and be baptized (Acts 2:38).

How Are Christians Baptized?

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19).

By immersion, symbolizing death and resurrection with Christ (Romans 6:3–4).

What Is Baptism?

A sign of a clean conscience before God (1 Peter 3:21).

A sign of dying and rising with Christ (Romans 6:3–4).

A sign of unity with Christ and His people (Galatians 3:27–28).

Application

How does remembering your baptism shape your faith today?

What next step of obedience might God be inviting you to take?

Prayer

Thank God for Jesus' obedience, ask for courage to follow Him fully, and pray for those considering baptism.