



Reference: Mark 1:9-11

June 14-18

INTRODUCTION

In preparation for our upcoming church in the park service, we want to take a week to explore the topic of baptism. We are not going to argue about minute details, but we are going to focus on the major ideas important to understanding Biblical Baptism.

ICE BREAKER

What has been one of the hardest decisions you have had to make?

QUESTIONS

- 1.) Before we delve into the subject, why do you think Jesus commanded the church to baptize new believers?
- 2.) Pastor John stated that “Baptism is not necessary to go to heaven, but it is a big deal.” How does that truth correct some of the wrong assumptions people can easily believe about baptism?
- 3.) Pastor John taught us that Baptism must symbolize the Gospel. How does Baptism by immersion symbolize what Jesus did for us?
- 4.) Many pastors have to persuade believers to be baptized. Why do you think some are hesitant to follow Jesus in this manner?
- 5.) The other question we have to wrestle with is who should be baptized. Read Acts 2:41, 8:12, 8:36-39, 10:44-48, and 16:30-33. What pattern do you see developing in these texts? How does that conflict with some other teachings you may have heard about baptism elsewhere?
- 6.) Pastor John told us “A person is never baptized in order to be saved. A person is baptized because they have been saved & they want to show that they have been saved to the whole world!” Read 1 John 1:7. Why is it vital that we understand baptism doesn’t save us or cleanse us from sin? Why do you think some of us can be tempted to believe this?
- 7.) We were graciously reminded that Baptism is a matter of obedience. J.D. Greear stated when remarking about baptism “When it comes to God we must remember that delayed obedience is disobedience.” Do you agree? Why or why not? Have you followed Jesus in baptism?