

"Built for Action; Powered by the Spirit!"

## "Time to Stand Up" Core 39

*"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

*Acts 2:38*

### A. Jesus modeled the importance of baptism...

*"After His baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on Him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is My dearly loved Son, who brings Me great joy.'" Matthew 3:16-17*

1. Jesus was immersed in the Jordan River.

*The Greek word for baptism was baptize meaning "to immerse" or "to dip." In the first century, it referred to dipping a cloth into dye.*

2. Jesus was immersed as there was plenty of water.

*"At this time John the Baptist was baptizing at Aenon, near Salim, because there was plenty of water there; and people kept coming to him for baptism." John 3:23*

3. Jesus did not need to be forgiven or cleansed from sin but was baptized as a sign.

*"And that water is a picture of baptism, which now saves you, not by removing dirt from your body, but as a response to God from a clean conscience. It is effective because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 3:21*

4. Jesus was in unity with the Father and the Spirit in this significant beginning of His public ministry.

*"After His baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on Him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is My dearly loved Son, who brings Me great joy.'" Matthew 3:16-17*

### B. Baptism is...

1. Baptism is a command.

*"Peter's words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter replied, 'Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" Acts 2:37-38*

2. Baptism is a statement of your union with Jesus, His death, His burial, and His resurrection.

*"Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined Him in His death? For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives." Romans 6:3-4*

3. Baptism is traditionally by immersion.

*"As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, 'Look! There's some water! Why can't I be baptized?' He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away." Acts 8:36-39*

*"So he gave orders for them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ." Acts 10:48*

*"One of them was Lydia from Thyatira, a merchant of expensive purple cloth, who worshiped God. As she listened to us, the Lord opened her heart, and she accepted what Paul was saying. She and her household were baptized, and she asked us to be her guests." Acts 16:14-15*  
*"Even at that hour of the night, the jailer cared for them and washed their wounds. Then he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized." Acts 16:33*

*"Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, and everyone in his household believed in the Lord. Many others in Corinth also heard Paul, became believers, and were baptized." Acts 18:8*

4. Baptism is a testimony to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*"baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19b*

5. Baptism is an expression of your faith.

*"For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with Him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead." Colossians 2:11-12*

6. Baptism is a choice through faith.

*"There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism," Ephesians 4:5*

7. Baptism is recognition of your commitment to Christ and the local church.

*"For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives." Romans 6:4*

### C. Baptism is not...

1. Baptism is not a religious ritual.
2. Baptism is not just a church tradition.
3. Baptism is not a means of salvation.
4. Baptism is not a means of forgiveness.

### D. Baptism is...

1. Baptism is a gift.

*"God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it." Ephesians 2:8-9*

2. Baptism is a command.

*"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20*

3. Baptism is by faith.

*"Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned." Mark 16:16*

4. Baptism is a testimony.

*"Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all." Acts 2:41*

5. Baptism is a marker.

*"What are you waiting for? Get up and be baptized." Acts 22:16a*

*So why haven't you chosen to be baptized? Is it a choice, an option, or a command?*