

Name: _____ Address: _____

Bible Correspondence Course

Lesson #8: Why Baptism Really Matters

Please carefully read the enclosed Lesson, **Why Baptism Really Matters**, and the Bible Readings listed below. Answer the questions on this worksheet according to the Lesson and/or the Bible verses indicated. The author of the Booklet has used the King James Version of the Bible but you may fill in the blanks from the version of your choice, and make any necessary changes.

*"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. . . ." Mark 16:15-16*

READINGS:

- Acts 2:22-42 ■ Acts 3:37-42 ■ Acts 8:26-40 ■ Acts 10 ■ Romans 6 ■ Romans 7:15-25
- Galatians 3:26-29 ■ Galatians 5:16-24 ■ Colossians 2:11-14 ■ Colossians 3:1-11

1. Is Bible teaching about Christian baptism relevant for us today? YES _____ NO _____
2. What was the nickname given to Jesus' forerunner John, who was the son of Zechariah, as a result of an activity he performed in the River Jordan? _____
3. In **Mark 1:4** we are told that John preached a baptism of "_____ for the _____ of sins." This was not yet Christian baptism, for Jesus had not yet died. However as we shall see, Christian baptism is also an expression of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
4. According to **Matthew 3:13-17**, was Jesus baptized? YES _____ NO _____
5. In **Matthew 28:19-20**, Jesus instructs his disciples to — "teach all the nations, _____ them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: _____ them to _____ all things whatsoever I have _____ you."
6. a) In **Acts 2:38** Peter tells his listeners — "Repent and be _____ every one of you in the name of _____ for the _____ of sins."
b) **Acts 2:41** continues on — "then they that gladly received his word were _____"
7. a) According to **Acts 8:12**, what did Philip's listeners do after being convinced by his teaching?

b) In **Acts 8:36**, what did the eunuch ask Philip after listening to his teaching?

c) Does it appear likely that Philip spoke to the eunuch about the meaning and necessity of baptism?
YES _____ NO _____

8. According to **Acts 9:18**, what did Saul (Paul) do immediately after receiving his sight?

9. Cornelius is described in Acts 10 as a _____ man who _____ God. Upon believing the gospel, he was even blessed by God with the gift of the Holy Spirit. Nevertheless, according to **Acts 10:48**, Peter commanded Cornelius and his household to be _____.
10. According to **Acts 16:14-15**, what did Lydia do after God opened her heart to believe Paul's teaching?

11. What does being "born of water" (John 3:5) likely mean in the context of New Testament teaching and practice? _____
12. **Mark 16:16** — "Go ye into all the world and preach the _____ . . . He that _____ and is _____ shall be _____"
13. What is the general term the Bible uses to describe all forms of disobedience to God's principles and commandments? _____
14. a) According to **Romans 6:23**, what is sin's ultimate consequence? _____
b) Has God left the human race in a state of hopeless subjection to sin and death?

15. According to Jesus' words in **Mark 7:21-23**, where do people's sinful impulses originate?

16. What did Jeremiah say in **Jeremiah 17:9** about the human heart 700 years before Jesus?

17. According to **James 1:13-15**, where does the desire to sin come from? _____
18. Paul laments in **Romans 7:18** — ". . . that _____"

19. The Bible uses the term "in the _____" to express the idea that human nature is the source of sinful impulses. Therefore, acts of disobedience are sometimes called "works of the _____" (*Galatians 5:19*). In more modern terms we might say that sin is a product of human nature.
20. According to **Hebrews 2:18** and **4:15**, was Jesus subject to the temptation to sin in the same way other men and women are tempted to sin? YES _____ NO _____

21. Did Jesus yield to temptation so to actually commit sin? YES _____ NO _____
22. Is the temptation to sin, being a desire or impulse to sin, the same as actually committing sin?
YES _____ NO _____
23. **Hebrews 2:17-18** — "That [Jesus] might be a _____ and _____ high priest in things pertaining to God, to make _____ for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered being _____, he is able to _____ (to aid, or to help) them that are tempted."
24. Jesus was a fit "offering" to "_____ the sin of the world" (*John 1:29*) because he was subject to the temptation to sin and yet he did not actually commit an act of disobedience. In his life he effectively "_____ sin" (*Romans 8:3*) by refusing to submit to it, and in his death he made a public display of assent to God's judgement that sinful flesh deserves death. Thus Jesus became a model or example to be embraced by all those who desire to serve God faithfully in their lives. A sacrifice, in whose name God was pleased to offer the promise of eternal life to all those who would approach him on this basis, recognizing and repenting of their sinfulness and appealing to him for forgiveness. The way in which God asks us to express our acceptance of His basis of forgiveness is baptism into the death of Jesus, a symbolic participation in his sinless life and sacrificial death. By that token baptism becomes an expression of the believer's repentance.
25. a) According to Peter's speech in **Acts 3:19**, what has to happen in our lives in order for our sins to be forgiven? _____
 b) What is repentance? _____
 c) What does it mean to "be converted"? _____
26. According to **Acts 2:38**, our repentance must be expressed through the act of _____.
27. In the days of Jesus and the apostles, baptism was by total _____ in _____. Its true meaning is explained by the apostle Paul in the following passages:
 a) **Romans 6:3-4** — "so many of us as were _____ into Jesus Christ were _____ into his _____. Therefore we are _____ with him by _____ into death."
 b) Paul continues in **Romans 6:5** — ". . . if we have been planted together in the likeness of his _____, we shall be also in the likeness of his _____."
 c) Based on these verses and in your own words, what happens to a person when he is baptized?

28. The idea that baptism represents a participation in Jesus' death is repeated frequently in the Bible. Here are a few passages from the writings of the apostle Paul:

a) **Galatians 2:20** — "I am _____ with Christ . . ."

b) **Galatians 5:24** — "And they that are Christs' have _____ the _____ with _____."

c) **Colossians 2:12** — "_____ with him in baptism, wherein also ye are _____ with him . . ."

d) **Colossians 2:13** — "Being dead in your _____ . . . hath he _____ (made alive) together with him."

29. Now physically speaking the baptized person does not change, much less does he physically die. What is it then that should change about the person when he is baptized?

30. **Romans 6:12, 14** — "Let not _____ therefore _____ in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the _____ . . . sin shall _____ have _____ over you."

31. **Ephesians 4:22-24** — ". . . put off _____, which is _____ according to _____; And be _____ in the _____ of your mind; And that ye put on the _____, which after God is created in _____ and true _____."

32. Is there any biblical record of small children being baptized that you can think of and quote?

33. Why are small children not suitable candidates for baptism? _____

34. Does God expect that we live perfect lives after we are baptized? YES _____ NO _____

Explain. _____

35. When a baptized believer, who is sincerely trying to serve God fails, what is God willing to do?

(See: *1John 1:9*) _____

36. After we have understood the plan of God and His hope for us, and we wish to obey His commandments, what must we do? _____

If you have any questions or comments about this lesson or the course in general, please write them out and we'll do our best to respond. Please remember to write **your name and address** on the top of the first page and return your completed worksheet to: