

All That Jesus Taught - #2

The True Meaning of Baptism (Matthew 28:19)

1. What are some parallels that you see between marriage and Jesus' call to discipleship (Luke 9:57-62, 14:26-30)? move in together, not visiting once a week; common money and possessions, not separate; forsaking prior relationships; no turning back; separation from previous name and identity; laying down of one's personal interests, goals, affections, etc.; counting the cost; etc.

2. What must precede baptism, and why (Matthew 28:19)? first present to the convert the conditions of discipleship; otherwise it would be like not explaining clearly to a woman what marriage is all about, and then convincing her to get married to someone

How were the First Century apostles able to baptize converts almost immediately (Acts 2:41, 8:12-13, 8:36-37, 9:18, 10:47-48, 16:15, 16:33, 22:16)? Christianity being new, people (both Jews and Gentiles) already had to take a radical stand against their family and culture to even accept the gospel

3. What all does baptism symbolize?

(Romans 6:6) burial of the old "Self"

(Matthew 28:19) faith in One God in Three Persons, even though we do not understand it with human minds; not explanation, but experience

4. What is revelation? Knowledge of God that comes not from explanation of Him, but experience with Him.

What are some conditions for it that we can learn from a child (Matthew 11:25)?

purity of heart, without holding grudges

humility in knowing that the Father has placed us IN Christ (Ephesians 1:4) on the basis of His foreknowledge of our faith in Him (I Peter 1:1-2); so, we too died, were buried, were raised, and are seated in heavenly places