

## DAY 2: WHAT IS BAPTISM

So what is Water Baptism? Yesterday we learned that baptism is a picture of death, burial and resurrection. An outward symbol/expression of an inward work of what God is doing in our hearts and lives. But it also serves another purpose: it's a public declaration of what God's done and what you've decided to do. In other words, deciding to follow Jesus in your heart and as an individual is amazing and personal, but there's something powerful about declaring, in the presence of family, friends, and the church that you've made a decision to follow Jesus. It's Going public with your faith. Our faith was never meant to be a private thing.

Walking away from Christ and the things He has for you becomes more difficult when you've made it public and made people aware of your decision.

*In fact, that's part of the reason it's so powerful - you allow others to be aware of the decision you've made, and now they are able to help keep you accountable.*

If you begin to make selfish and unwise decisions again, these people have the ability to speak into your life and remind you of the decision you've made to follow Christ. And on top of all that, it's also a great form of witness. Many people invite their family members and friends to witness their baptism, even if they don't know Jesus.

*Imagine - you get baptized and your friends/family members end up making a decision to follow Jesus as a result! How incredible would that be!*

*Read: Matthew 3:13-17 | Mark 16:15-16 | Matthew 5:14-16 | Acts 2:38-41*