

4th September 2016

THEME- BAPTISM: CLEAN, ALIVE AND OBEDIENT TO CHRIST: LIFE APPLICATION

PASSAGES: Acts 2:38 -42

ICEBREAKER

- Can you remember a significant baptism that you witnessed (not your own) that was special? What was so special about it?

DISCOVERY AND UNDERSTANDING

- According to the Acts 2:36-41 passage, what are the key things that need to happen before someone is baptised?
- Some have called baptism an 'outward demonstration of an inward decision'. Is it just a sign or something more? (Also read 1 Peter 3:21 & Galatians 3:26-27).
- After accepting Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, how long did you wait before you were baptised? What are the advantages or disadvantages of delaying baptism (see also Acts 22:16 & Acts 16: 13-15).
- A friend tells you they want to be baptised. However their parents are unhappy because they had your friend christened as a baby and this now feels like a betrayal. What advice would you give to your friend?
- Should baptism be a pre-condition of membership of the church? Should a church have a membership system at all? Why or why not?
- Read Romans 6:3-4. What does walking in newness of life look like? How does the act of baptism enable us to do it?

APPLICATION

- Pray for T and Lindsay as they live out their Christian lives united to Christ
- Pray that we see many more baptisms in the weeks and months to come
- Pray for the Alpha course as people prepare to gather to learn about Christ
- Pray that we will reflect on our own baptisms and walk in newness of life as a result.