

Baptism

Expression of Faith – 9/26/2021

OVERVIEW

Faith and baptism are so closely related in the New Testament that they are almost always collectively grouped together. When we share the good news of Christ, we are to go, make disciples and baptize them. This public declaration is the first step of faith after someone chooses to follow Jesus. God causes the miracle (the heart change), and we act it out. Maybe your next step is to put your faith in Jesus. Maybe it's saying yes to baptism. Or maybe God is asking you to come alongside someone as they walk out their faith journey. We all have a yes to say to Jesus. What is your next step?

Scriptures: Ephesians 2:8-10; Colossians 2:11-15; Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Peter 3:20-21; Acts 2:41, 8:12, 35-38, 9:17-18

APPLICATION

- If you were to explain the good news of Jesus to someone, what would you say?
- Have you ever been ashamed of sharing your faith? What holds you back from boldly sharing with others what God has done in your life? If you aren't yet a follower of Jesus, what is keeping you from saying yes to Him right now?
- If you are a follower of Jesus and have not been baptized, what is preventing you from taking that next step and publicly declaring Jesus is Lord of your life?
- **TAKE ACTION:** Spend time praying for opportunities this week where you can share your faith in Jesus. Ask God to open doors and conversations with others who are open to hear the good news. If you haven't been baptized yet and know that is your next step, check out www.blueridge.org/baptism and watch the video and fill out the application. We would love to see you make your public declaration of faith on October 10th at our Baptism Celebration!