

### ***Why Seek Baptism in the Church?***

“Evangelicals need to affirm aggressively the necessary connection between faith in Christ and commitment to His church. One cannot exist without the other, as demonstrated in Acts, where no one was counted as a Christian until he or she was baptized and received into the community of God’s people.” ~Robert W. Patterson

Q: What are ways we might use to deem another person as a Christian other than baptism?

Q: How might we, even as Baptists, undervalue baptism?

Q: What’s wrong with getting “baptized” alone in your bathtub?

Q: What’s wrong with getting baptized every week?

Q: When someone is baptized in the presence of the church, what is the significance for the person being baptized?

Q: What is the significance for the group assembled?

Q: What is the significance for you personally?

Dr. Whitney gives **3 reasons to be baptized in the church:**

1. Baptism openly identifies you as a follower of Christ.
2. Baptism openly obeys the command of Christ.
3. Baptism openly expresses your faith in many truths.

Q<sup>1</sup>: In some churches, what has replaced baptism as that which openly identifies one as a follower of Christ? What’s wrong with such alternatives?

Q<sup>2</sup>: What are some reasons a person might give as to why he or she has not been baptized?

Q<sup>3</sup>: What are some of the truths in which faith is expressed in baptism? Does this further validate for you a conviction for believer’s baptism?

Q: Why is it important for those of us who have been baptized to attend the baptism of others?

Q: What are the potential ramifications for those baptized where Christianity is unpopular among a hostile majority? Should it still be done?

Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”