

UNDERSTANDING BAPTISM & COMMUNION ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

Pastor Kevin Cummings – September 6, 2020

- There are only _____ ordinances _____ of which is necessary for salvation. Ordinances are symbols, not sacraments. (Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 11:6; John 6:28-29)

I. Questions about baptism (Romans 6:1-14)

- A. _____ should I be baptized?
1. To follow the example set by Christ. (Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9)
 2. Because Christ commands it. (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:38)
 3. It demonstrates that I really am a believer. (Acts 18:8; I John 2:3)
- B. What is the _____ of baptism?
1. It symbolizes Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. (v. 1-5; I Corinthians 15:3-4; Colossians 2:12)
 2. It illustrates my new life as a Christian. (v. 6-7; II Corinthians 5:17)
 3. It proves the sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice. (v. 8-10)
 4. It is a call to commitment. (v. 11-14)
- C. Why be baptized by _____ (under the water)?
1. Because Jesus was baptized that way. (Matthew 3:16)
 2. Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion. (Acts 8:38-39)
 3. The word "baptize" means to dip under water.
 4. It best symbolizes a burial and resurrection.
- D. _____ should be baptized?
1. Every person who has believed in Christ. (Acts 2:41a; 8:12-13)
 2. Children should wait until they are old enough to believe and understand the true meaning before they are baptized.

- E. _____ should I be baptized?
1. As soon as you believe. (Acts 2:41b; 8:35-38)
 2. Our next baptism is next Sunday at the James River.

II. Questions about communion or the Lord's Supper (I Corinthians 11:17-34)

- A. _____ is the Lord's Supper?
1. It is a simple act, not a big ceremony. (v. 17-23)
 2. It is a reminder. (v. 24)
 3. It is a symbol. (v. 25)
 4. It is a statement of faith. (v. 26)
- B. Who should take the Lord's supper? (v. 29) _____
- C. How do I _____ myself for the Lord's supper?
1. Self - Examination (v. 27-28; 30-34)
 2. Confession of sins (I John 1:9)
 3. Recommitment (Romans 12:1)
 4. Restore relationships (Matthew 5:23-24)
- D. _____ should we observe the Lord's supper?
- Jesus never said when or how often believers should observe the Lord's Supper
- E. What are the _____ to the Lord's Supper?
1. A warning (v. 27-32)
 2. The bread (v. 23-24)
 3. The cup (v. 25)
 4. Our response (v. 26)

ACTION POINTS: 1.) Have _____ ever accepted Jesus as your personal Savior and been baptized the Biblical way?

- 2.) Are you _____ of your baptism?
- 3.) Are you _____ to take the Lord's Supper?
- 4.) We must _____ all Jesus has done for us.

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- There are only two ordinances neither of which is necessary for salvation. Ordinances are symbols, not sacraments. (Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 11:6; John 6:28-29)

I. Questions about baptism (Romans 6:1-14)

A. Why should I be baptized?

1. To follow the example set by Christ. (Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9)
2. Because Christ commands it. (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:38)
3. It demonstrates that I really am a believer. (Acts 18:8; I John 2:3)

B. What is the meaning of baptism?

1. It symbolizes Christ's death, burial and resurrection. (v. 1-5; I Corinthians 15:3-4; Colossians 2:12)
2. It illustrates my new life as a Christian. (v. 6-7; II Corinthians 5:17)
3. It proves the sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice. (v. 8-10)
4. It is a call to commitment. (v. 11-14)

C. Why be baptized by immersion (under the water)?

1. Because Jesus was baptized that way. (Matthew 3:16)
2. Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion. (Acts 8:38-39)
3. The word "baptize" means to dip under water.
4. It best symbolizes a burial and resurrection.

D. Who should be baptized?

1. Every person who has believed in Christ. (Acts 2:41a; 8:12-13)
2. Children should wait until they are old enough to believe and understand the true meaning before they are baptized.

E. When should I be baptized?

1. As soon as you believe. (Acts 2:41b; 8:35-38)
2. Our next baptism is next Sunday at the James River.

II. Questions about communion or the Lord's Supper (I Corinthians 11:17-34)

A. What is the Lord's Supper?

1. It is a simple act, not a big ceremony. (v. 17-23)
2. It is a reminder. (v. 24)
3. It is a symbol. (v. 25)
4. It is a statement of faith. (v. 26)

B. Who should take the Lord's supper? (v. 29) Only believers

C. How do I prepare myself for the Lord's supper?

1. Self - Examination (v. 27-28; 30-34)
2. Confession of sins (I John 1:9)
3. Recommitment (Romans 12:1)
4. Restore relationships (Matthew 5:23-24)

D. How often should we observe the Lord's supper?

- Jesus never said when or how often believers should observe the Lord's Supper

E. What are the four parts to the Lord's Supper?

1. A warning (v. 27-32)
2. The bread (v. 23-24)
3. The cup (v. 25)
4. Our response (v. 26)

ACTION POINTS: 1.) Have you ever accepted Jesus as your personal Savior and been baptized the Biblical way?

2.) Are you living worthy of your baptism?

3.) Are you prepared to take the Lord's Supper?

4.) We must never forget all Jesus has done for us.