



BAPTISM

AN OUTWARD EXPRESSION OF AN INWARD FAITH

A RIDE NATURE MINISTRY RESOURCE

"BAPTISM"

AN OUTWARD EXPRESSION OF AN INWARD FAITH

**PUBLISHED AND PRODUCED BY:
THE RIDE NATURE ORGANIZATION**

**AS A RESOURCE AND TOOL FOR ACTION SPORTS FOCUSED
OUTREACH, EVANGELISM, AND DISCIPLESHIP.**

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WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN?

AN OUTWARD EXPRESSION OF AN INWARD FAITH

Baptism is a beautiful symbol of the Gospel of Jesus making a life altering change in your life. We hold the belief that water baptism is the most biblical form of baptism. This means that the person being baptized is submerged under water and then lifted up out of the water. Baptism is only a symbol, It has no power to save. We like to say that baptism is an outward expression of an inward faith.

I will explain to you the meaning of the water baptism. First, getting baptized is a personal choice that is made on your own. It shows that you are willfully making this decision to walk into the waters of baptism. Secondly, a current disciple of Jesus will then ask them about their recent (or not so recent) confession of faith. This is a chance for them to not only believe in their heart but also confess with their mouth that Jesus is Lord. After their confession of faith in Jesus, the disciple will then baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit by submerging them under the water. This exemplifies that they have buried their old self with Christ. At this point, they are now raised up out of the water, exemplifying that they have been raised to new life as a new creation in Christ Jesus!

THE CALL TO BAPTIZE

**"THEREFORE GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND SURELY I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE VERY END OF THE AGE"
-MATTHEW 28:19-20**

A very common question that we get when it comes to baptism is, why should I be baptized? This is a great fundamental question that definitely needs to be answered before someone takes their next step of faith into the waters of baptism.

The short answer to this question would be, because Jesus himself calls us to be baptized. One of Jesus' last encounters with his disciples, Jesus tells them to go and make disciples, and baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If we have no other reason, I believe that the command of Jesus should be reason enough as to why a follower of Jesus should get baptized. Baptism is a call directly from Jesus and our proper response should be to obey His commands.

*God's people should be baptized because God commanded it, not because some church requires it.
- John R Rice*



WHO SHOULD GET BAPTIZED AND WHEN?

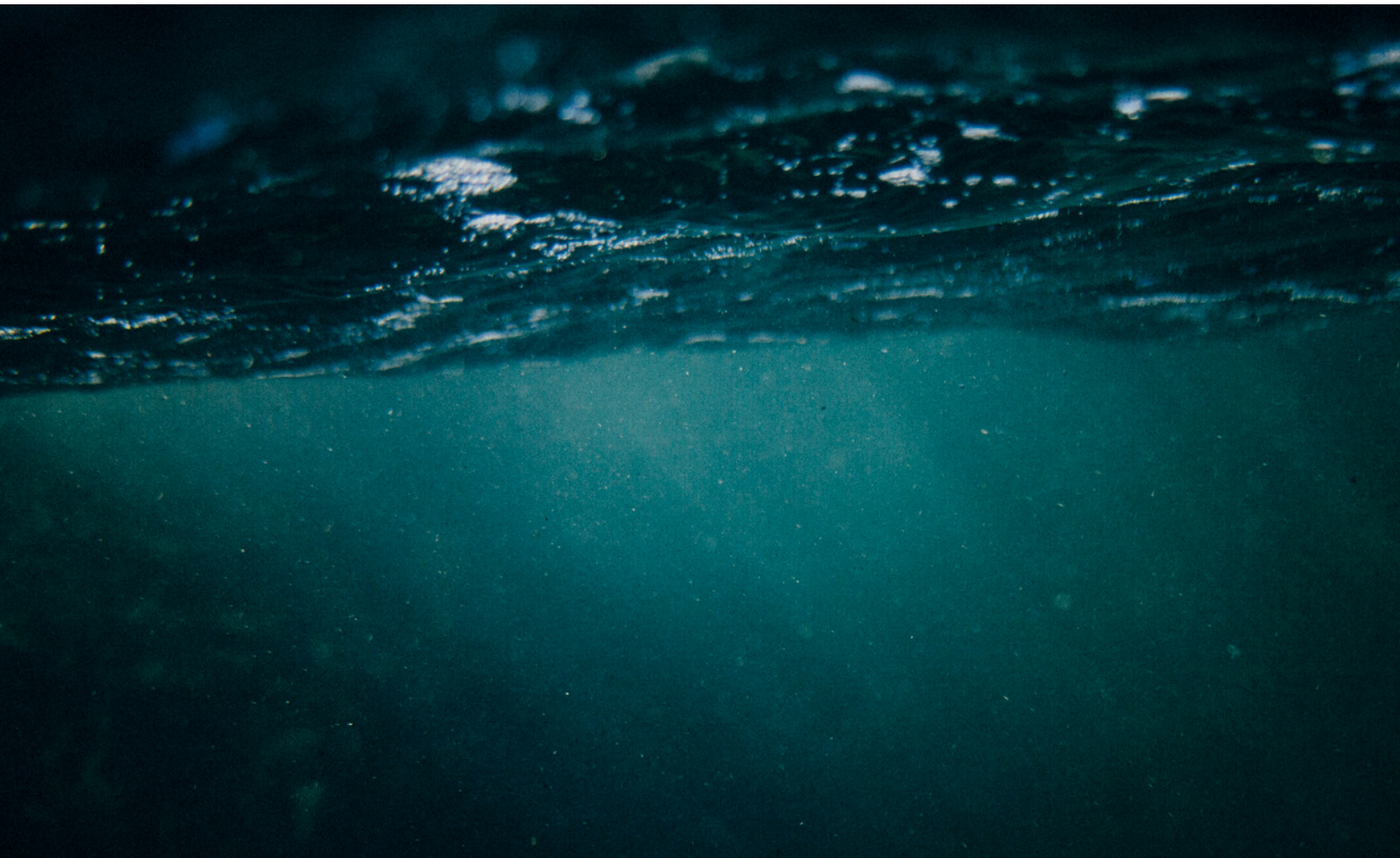
THEY CALL IT BELIEVER'S BAPTISM FOR A REASON

We believe that all believers and followers of Jesus should take the obedient step of baptism. We also believe that every believer should understand what baptism is, before making the decision to get baptized. Once the believer knows what baptism means, at this time we should encourage them to make the decision to get baptized.

We have seen that often times, people may take the step of obedience in getting baptized but sometimes those people don't even know what baptism means. They may have been falsely told in the past that if they don't get baptized then they will go to hell. Or maybe someone thinks that they don't need to get baptized because they were baptized as a baby.

It is important for us to explain baptism to them well, because only when they understand the concept of baptism should they get baptized. So it is our responsibility as disciple makers to make sure that they understand baptism before they make the decision to get baptized.

“Baptism is the initial step of a faithful heart.”
- Max Lucado



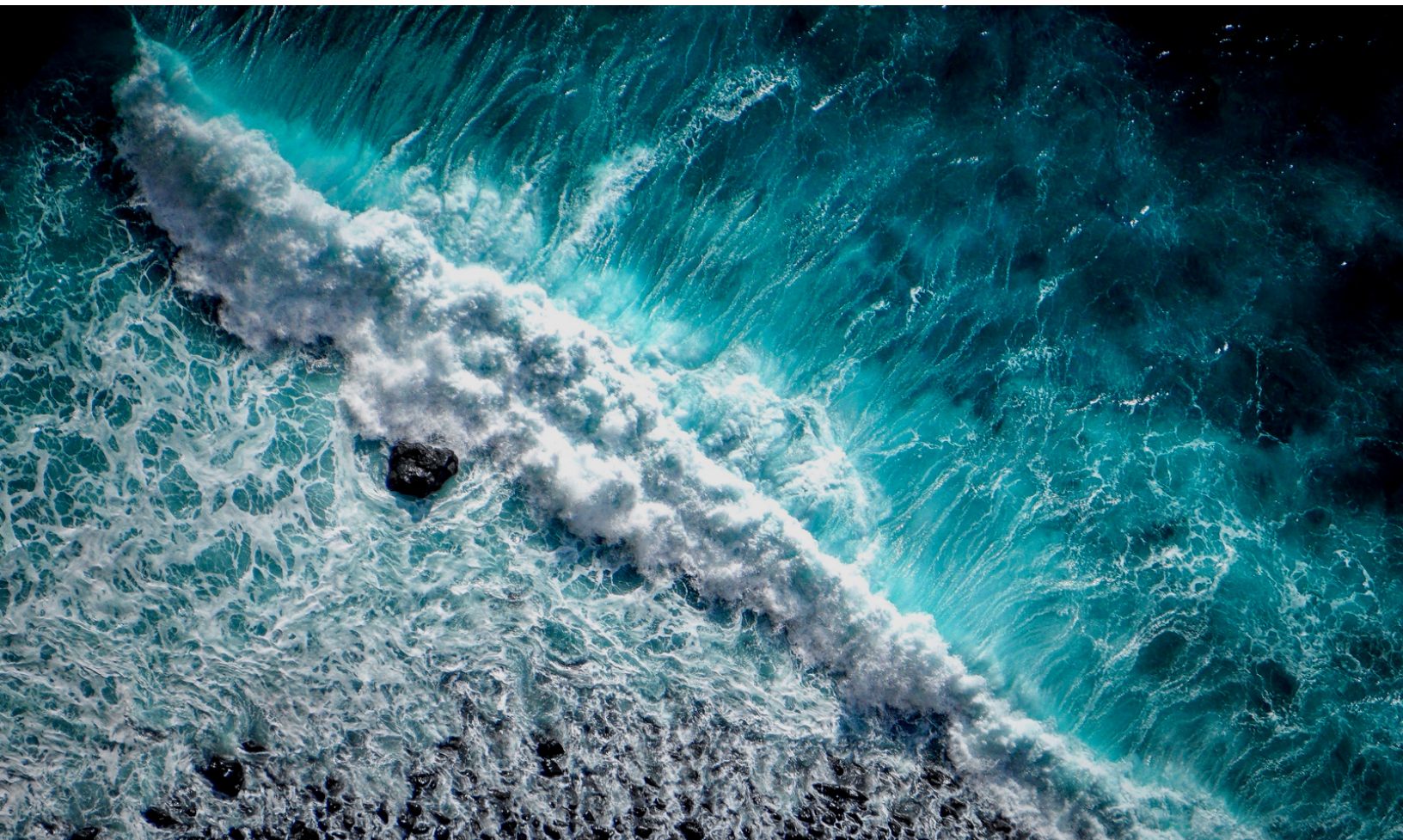
WHO SHOULD BAPTIZE?

FOR THE MATURE AND WILLING

The Bible does not have a clear cut definition on the question of who can administer the act of baptism. With that being said, we can pull some conclusions as to who should not baptize. Baptism should not be done by someone who is not a follower of Jesus. This is one conclusion that we can reach because there is not an instance in the bible where an unbeliever is baptizing people.

The Bible does not have clear guidelines of who can or cannot baptize. You can not find scripture that says that there are requirements to baptize. Many churches and organizations ultimately only allow elders and pastors to baptize people. While this is the norm in the church today, this is something that is not defined in the Bible. We would affirm that it would be wise for the one baptizing to be someone who is more spiritually mature than the one being baptized, and that they would be confident to explain what baptism is before conducting the baptism. As far as I can see in the Bible, the great commission is for all believers and that includes the call to baptize.

*"And he ordered that the chariot stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him."
-Acts 8:38*



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ACTION SPORTS MISSION ORGANIZATION
THAT WAS FOUNDED IN 2009,
AND DEDICATED TO GIVING GENEROUSLY,
PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST,
AND MAKING DISCIPLES
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.**

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION
OR TO DISCOVER HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED
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**"YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY
SPIRIT COMES ON YOU; AND YOU WILL BE MY
WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM, AND IN
ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA, AND
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH."**

ACTS 1:8