

WATER BAPTISM

MARCH 19, 2017

MATTHEW 4:18-20

Peter and Andrew were at work one day when Jesus asked them to follow Him and allow Him to make them what he wanted them to be. They responded by doing what everyone should do. They immediately forsook all to follow Jesus. None of us would even know their names if they chose otherwise. This morning we are here to support individuals who have made the same decision as Peter and Andrew.

WATER BAPTISM

1. Water Baptism is an important first step in a believer's life.
 - A. Jesus was baptized to fulfill all righteousness.
MATTHEW 3:13-15
 - B. Being water baptized pleases the Father. **MATTHEW 3:16-17**
 - C. It's an eternal ordinance of the church. **MATTHEW 28:19-20**

2. Water Baptism should never be taken lightly.
 - A. In some countries it meant imprisonment.
 - B. In others it meant death. You couldn't bury a Christian's body because it would desecrate the land.
 - C. In the Bible, it identifies us as one who died to self to be a disciplined follower of Christ. **ROMANS 6:4-7**

3. Water Baptism is an act of obedience, not a requirement for salvation.
 - A. **ACTS 10:44-46** – They were saved and Spirit Baptized first.
 - B. **ACTS 10:47-48** – They were commanded to be baptized in water afterward. **ACTS 16:30-33**
 - C. **ACTS 2:38, 8:12, 35-36, 19:1-6** – All were immediately baptized.

CONCLUSION: Jesus gave His life for us. He left us with two ordinances (laws, decrees, commands) to obey: The Lord's supper, and Water Baptism. **MATTHEW 10:32-33** – Water Baptism is an opportunity to confess our allegiance to Christ.