



CHRISTCHURCH
BLACKPOOL

Phone: 07774 940092

Email: info@christchurchblackpool.co.uk

Web: christchurchblackpool.co.uk

Office: 23 Benedict Dr, FY3 0AF

Christ Church Blackpool

Foundations Reflection Guide

Part 2: Water Baptism

This reflection guide is designed for uses for those who have listened or watched **Foundations Part 2: Water Baptism**

It provides space to process the scriptures and apply the Foundations teaching.

The big idea of this session is simple: if we love Jesus, we will obey his word. Jesus calls us to repent, turn from our sins, follow him, and be baptised—an act that does not save us, but serves as a symbol and a public declaration that we no longer belong to the world or the powers of darkness, but have died with Christ, been washed in his blood, and been raised with him to new life.

1. Be Baptised

- Read Matthew 10:32, Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 2:38-41

"Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven.

Matthew 10:32

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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 28:18-20

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call. "With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Acts 2:38-41

- Baptism is far more than a religious ritual or a "nice tradition". It is an **outward, public declaration** of an inward, spiritual miracle.
 - **A Public Statement:** It tells the world—and the spiritual realms—that you are serious about your relationship with God.
 - **Ownership:** It signifies that you belong to Christ now and no other.
 - **A Command, Not a Suggestion:** Jesus instructed His followers to baptize all nations. If Jesus is Lord, baptism is the natural first step of an obedient soldier following orders.

Reflect: Have you viewed baptism as an "optional extra" or as a vital step of obedience?

2. What is Baptism

- **The meaning:** The Greek word translated “baptise” was not a special religious word. It was an everyday word meaning to dip, to immerse, to submerge.
 - It was used in the following ways:
 - A piece of cloth which had been dyed was said to have been ‘baptised’.
 - A bucket used to collect water was ‘baptised’ in the well.
 - A sunken ship was said to have been ‘baptised’.
- **The New Testament:** In the Bible, we read them baptising by full immersion in water.

*“As Jesus was **coming up out of the water**, he saw heaven being torn and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.”*

Mark 1: 10

*The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?”⁵ Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized? And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch **went down into the water** and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.*

Acts 8:34-39

- **Notice:** They are not sprinkled but go down into a body of water. Can you think of any other Baptism in the book of Acts? Are those being baptised always fully immersed in water?

3. Who should be Baptised?

- **Faith first:** Baptism is for those who have accepted the gospel of grace, repented, and put their trust in Jesus.

*Jesus said: "Whoever **believes** and is baptised will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."*

Mark 16: 16

*"those who **accepted his message** were baptised, and about 3,000 were added to their number on that day."*

Acts 2: 41

- **The Philippian Jailer and his family**

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family.

Acts 16: 32 - 34

- All who believed and baptised.

- **The Household of Cornelius**

"While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days."

Acts 10: 44-48

- They baptised those who had received the Holy Spirit.
- **Believers Only:** Baptism is for those who have accepted the gospel of grace, repented, and put their trust in Jesus.
- **The Age Factor:** While there is no specific age limit, a person must be old enough to know Jesus as their Savior and be willing to obey and follow Him as Lord.

Questions

1. **Are you a Christian?** Have you put your faith in Jesus and accepted him as your lord and saviour?
2. **Have you been baptised since making the decision to follow Christ?** Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ.
3. **What steps of obedience is Jesus asking you to make?** We don't need a special "feeling" or additional prompting to obey God we obey because we love him and his word is enough.
4. **If you have not been Baptised what is stopping you?**