

WHAT DO THE SCRIPTURES SAY ABOUT INFANT BAPTISM?

Discussing our relationship with God

HEAD



1. **Where do we go to understand?**

-Search the scripture-

- Matthew 28:18-20
- Colossians 2:11-12
- Genesis 17:7-10
- Acts 2:37-41
- Romans 10:9-10

HEART



2. **What questions does this cause you to ask?**

-Acknowledge the struggle-

- Do I need to *do* anything to be saved?
- Will God receive me in heaven? Will God receive my children?
- Have I done enough?
- Did my baptism “count”?
- Am I missing out on something?

How do the scriptures above help as you wrestle through your questions?

-Invite the Spirit into the mystery-

Fearless Q – Week 8

What Chapel Hill's pastors have understood in our wrestling:

Jesus commands baptism as part of being a follower of him! Baptism is a sign and a seal of the relationship that is ours with God the Father through Jesus the Son and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Because it is the work of God and a promise to us and to our children's children, new believers can be baptized as adults and believers can baptize infants. Baptism into the New Covenant is similar to the way God displayed his covenant family promises in the Old Covenant through circumcision. God initiated the covenant, and Jesus fulfilled the terms of the covenant. The work is already done! So our obedience in being baptized is a response to Jesus' faithfulness to complete our covenant relationship with God.

HANDS

3. How can we talk about this with others?

-Practice the conversation-



- A fifteen year old in your life recently started walking faithfully with Jesus. They want to be baptized. You were there in church when they were baptized as an infant. How would you advise them regarding being baptized again?
- There is someone in your LifeGroup who does not know if they were ever baptized. The Harbor Baptisms are coming up, and they want to be baptized. How do you encourage them?
- A well-meaning friend in another denomination is pressuring you to baptize your infant so that they are assured that your baby will go to heaven if he or she dies suddenly. What do you say?

4. Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Jesus, you alone have accomplished our salvation. We are not saved by anything we do or don't do. Thank you for that promise. It assures us when we are uncertain, weak, and disobedient. Help us to be sure of the cleansing power that you have in our life. Remind us that we are clean and in right relationship with you every time we see a baptism. Thank you that we are yours. Amen