

Today's Class: Baptism

- Introduction
- The word “baptism”
- Example of conversions in the New Testament
- Important teachings about baptism
- Summary

By-Laws of EGCC

Section 4.1 Membership, Eligibility

Any Christian who has been baptized by immersion, is a resident of Brevard or a neighboring county, and publicly expresses his or her desire to be a member of EGCC, as determined by the Elders or their designees, becomes a Member of EGCC from that time.

“Baptism”, Greek “baptizw”

Greek Strong's Number: 907

Greek Word: baptizw, **Transliteration:** baptizo

Phonetic Pronunciation: bap-tid'-zo

Usage Notes:

English Words used in KJV:

baptize (76) wash 2 baptist 1 baptized + [<G2258>](#) 1 [Total Count: 80]

1) to dip repeatedly, to immerse, to submerge (of vessels sunk)

2) to cleanse by dipping or submerging, to wash, to make clean with water, to wash one's self, bathe

3) to overwhelm

Not to be confused with [<G911>](#), bapto. The clearest example that shows the meaning of baptizo is a text from the Greek poet and physician Nicander, who lived about 200 B.C. It is a recipe for making pickles and is helpful because it uses both words. Nicander says that in order to make a pickle, the vegetable should first be 'dipped' (bapto) into boiling water and then 'baptised' (baptizo) in the vinegar solution. Both verbs concern the immersing of vegetables in a solution. But the first is temporary. The second, the act of baptising the vegetable, produces a permanent change. When used in the New Testament, this word more often refers to our union and identification with Christ than to our water baptism. e.g. [Mr 16:16](#). 'He that believes and is baptised shall be saved'. Christ is saying that mere intellectual assent is not enough. There must be a union with him, a real change, like the vegetable to the pickle! (Bible Study Magazine, James Montgomery Boice, May 1989).

—Strong's Greek & Hebrew Dictionary

Examples of Conversion in the New Testament

- Pentecost Acts 2:37-41
- Samaria and the road to Gaza (Phillip) Acts 8
- Paul Acts 9:15-18
- First true Gentile believers Acts 10:34-48

Conversion Examples: Questions

- Who was baptized?
- When were they baptized?
- Who did the baptism?

Important Baptism Teachings

- Commands
 - The Great Commission Mt 28:16-20
 - Peter at Pentecost Acts 2:36-39
- Other teachings
 - Romans 6:1-10
 - Ephesians 4:1-6
 - Col 2:9-15
 - 1 Peter 3:18-22

Summary:

What the Bible Teaches about Baptism

- Baptism is part of the commands for Christians by Jesus and Peter
- Baptism was done to believers at the point of conversion
- The early church pre-supposed baptism for all believers from the very first day of the church
- Through baptism, we participate in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ
- Baptism is commanded “for the forgiveness of sins and the receipt of the Holy Spirit.”

So...

What is the controversy about??

- Is baptism **necessary** for salvation, or “merely” a symbolic act?
- Is someone who has otherwise led a Christian life but was not immersed, eternally condemned?
- What is the “point in time” at which salvation happens?
- What is the relationship between baptism and the Holy Spirit?