

Sermon Notes

1st October 2017

Being Church: Believe and be Baptised



Summary of last week. The church is a body with different parts and gifts. We are to take our place within the body of Christ.

Introduction

- 1 Corinthians 12:13 'for we were all baptised by one spirit to form one body.' – baptism and body are together.
- The New Testament says that the foundation of church is commitment to Jesus. Baptism is part of our commitment to Jesus. This is shown through the following ways:

1. Jesus was baptised. Jesus gave us an example by being baptised himself.

- Jesus was baptised to 'fulfil all righteousness.' – Matthew 3:15. Jesus fully identifies with us in our sin.
- The Holy spirit descends on Jesus like a dove – Matthew 3:16.
- If Jesus was baptised then shouldn't we also?

2. Jesus commands his followers to be baptised.

- 'Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.' (Matthew 28:19).
- If we love Jesus then we want to do what Jesus asks.

3. The New Testament church baptised.

- Acts 2 – on the Day of Pentecost when God's Holy Spirit came on the disciples Peter explained who Jesus was.
- They asked, 'what shall we do' and Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ.' Acts 2:38.
- Repent means to 'turn around' – towards Jesus.
- The crowd put their faith in Jesus, were baptised, and were added to the church.

What is next for you? – Story of Lee Strobel and the 'case for Christ.' Think about: do you need more evidence? Do you need to accept Jesus? Perhaps it is time to consider being baptised? Maybe it is to recommit to Jesus once again?

Your notes

Sept 2017. Rev. Lucy Wright.