



# rites of spring

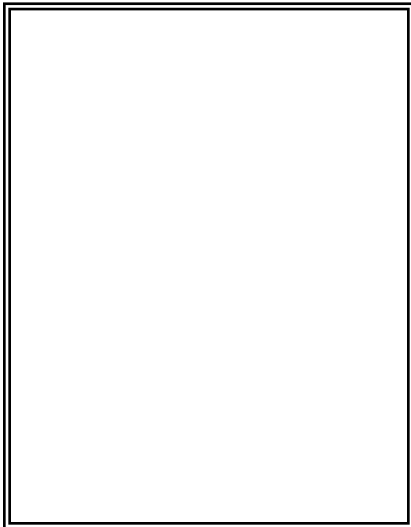


## Week 2 - Baptism

### Acts 2:38

*<sup>38</sup> 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."*

**RITE: (noun)**  
*a formal or ceremonial act or procedure prescribed or customary in religious or other solemn use.*



**Baptism is a next step of OBEDIENCE.**

### Matthew 28:18-20

*<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."<sup>19</sup> 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, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

**Baptism is FAITH in action.**

**Galatians 3:26-27**  
*So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.*

Baptism acknowledges God's CLAIM on our lives.

**Romans 6:3-4 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Baptism is symbolic and SIGNIFICANT.

*"Jesus did not come to make bad men good, but to make dead men live."  
- C.S. Lewis*

Baptism is not about perfection but POSTURE.

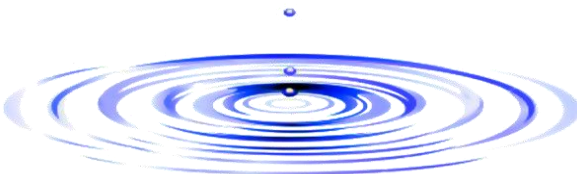
**Romans 6:11 (ESV)**  
*In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

## SO WHAT?

Who

How

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



**"Baptism is bowing before the Father and letting him do his work."  
- Max Lucado**

# NOTES:



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## **How to start a relationship with God:**

- 1) Admitting that you, like everyone else, are in need of rescue.
- 2) Asking God to forgive your sins.
- 3) Saying YES to God by trusting Jesus as Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

***Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to look to you and follow you all the days of my life.  
In Your name, Amen.***

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## **For Further Reflection:**

:: Take a few moments to share about your personal experience with baptism. [i.e. your baptism, times you've witnessed baptism celebrations, etc.]

:: When/Where was it?

:: What was significant or memorable about it?

:: What difference has it made in your life or not? Why is that?

:: Review the components and symbolism of baptism. Why is it important?

:: Reread/Review Romans 6:3-4, 11.

:: What stands out to you in these words?

:: Discuss the realities/implications of being spiritually dead? Alive?

:: What are tangible ways people "walk" in new life in Jesus?

:: What does that say about the significance of baptism?

:: Pastor Shawn said, "Baptism is not about perfection but posture."

:: Why is it important to prioritize right posture, over perfection, in our baptism journey?

:: What does it look like to make baptism about perfection in our lives?

:: Why do we/others end up doing that?

:: What posture does Jesus want us to take in approaching him in baptism & life? [ref. Galatians 3:26-27, Romans 6:11]

:: Take time to talk to God about your own journey in baptism and to also pray for those who took that next step of obedience this past weekend.

Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].  
Shawn Cossin (@shawncossin) – February 23 & 24, 2019

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