

## “Taking the Plunge – The meaning and significance of baptism” Romans 6:3-5

No public event in the course of your life can compare in importance with your baptism - not even your wedding day! In this message, we find out why God takes this ceremony so seriously as we discover the life-altering consequences of baptism.

### **The meaning of baptism**

- *baptizw* – to dip or submerge something in liquid
- Baptism = identification
- Romans 6:3-5
  - identified with Christ’s death
  - identified with Christ’s resurrection

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

### **Does baptism save us?**

- No, faith alone saves us – Rom 4 & 5
- But no one was asking this question!
- Baptism immediately followed faith
  - Acts 8:35-38
  - Acts 10:47-48
- Application: get baptized ASAP!

### **The significance of baptism**

1. Public witness of my faith
2. Declaration that I no longer have any excuse for sin (Rom 6:1-7)
3. Public commitment to follow Jesus

Matthew 28:19-20

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you...”

4. Moment I publicly join the church

Galatians 3:27-28

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with

Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man,  
there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.