

# SG

Your group matters.

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

What is something that always makes you happy?  
(Note: If you haven't sent your own icebreaker in your attendance report using the words summer, alien, hot sauce, sunshine, fireworks, grill, ice cream and "get to the chopper!" you can still do so this week.)

1. Did you take any steps this past week with your money and stuff; what was the result?
2. Choose 2 of the 6 passages listed below. What similarities and/or differences do you find as you look at these passages?
  - a. [Acts 2:29-41](#)
  - b. [Acts 8:9-13a, 26-38](#)
  - c. [Acts 9:1-19](#)
  - d. [Acts 16: 11-15](#)
  - e. [Acts 18:1-8](#)
  - f. [Acts 19:1-7](#)
3. Read [Romans 6:4-5](#). How does baptism visually depict salvation?
4. Pastor Tom said that baptism is not an "optional extra" for Jesus followers. Why do you believe this thinking has been embraced by so many believers today when the scriptures clearly teach otherwise?
5. Considering [John 14:15](#), Pastor Tom said that "baptism is an initial test of discipleship." Have you aced this test? If not, what is keeping you from taking the step of baptism and how can your group encourage and support you in it?

Day One: [Mark 2](#)

Day Two: [Genesis 30](#)

Day Three: [1 Corinthians 14](#)

Day Four: [1 Peter 3](#)

Day Five: [Job 30](#)

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.

## PERSONAL GUIDE



# RIVERSIDE CHURCH



Your story matters.

**PASTOR TOM LUNDEEN**

**JULY 31, 2022**

# WHEN TAILGATING IS GOOD



## MYRC.CHURCH



# “WHEN TAILGATING IS GOOD”

Pastor Tom Lundeen

## MESSAGE NOTES

The \_\_\_\_\_ is that every single person...is driven by something.  
\_\_\_\_\_ = to guide, control, direct.

Tailgating when you're driving is a \_\_\_\_\_ thing to do. But tailgating in following Jesus is a very \_\_\_\_\_ thing to do. Staying close to Jesus and following in His footsteps in every way should be the goal of every Jesus follower, and that includes \_\_\_\_\_.

### 1. What the New Testament Tells Us About Water Baptism

- A. What baptism means - "Baptizo" = "to \_\_\_\_\_...to immerse"
- *I would have those who are to be baptized to be \_\_\_\_\_ immersed, as the work imports and the mystery signifies.* (Martin Luther)
  - *The word 'baptize' signifies to immerse. It is certain that immersion was the practice of the \_\_\_\_\_ church.* (John Calvin)
  - *Buried with Him, alludes to baptizing by immersion according to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the first church.* (John Wesley)
- B. John the Baptist - his ministry shows us that baptism was not a new idea \_\_\_\_\_ by Christians, or even by John the Baptist.
- Baptism = always a symbolic \_\_\_\_\_.
  - John the "Baptizer" practiced a baptism that symbolized \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. Baptism of Jesus - His baptism was \_\_\_\_\_ of a number of things:
- It was to "\_\_\_\_\_ all righteousness" (note [Matthew 3:15](#))
  - Fulfilled the mission of John the Baptist and marked the start of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ ministry.
  - Jesus identified Himself with the \_\_\_\_\_ condition of humanity which He had come to save.
  - It is an example to \_\_\_\_\_ His followers.
- D. Other New Testament examples - baptism practiced \_\_\_\_\_ after commitment to Jesus Christ, so much so that often baptism and salvation closely tied together:
- Acts 2, Pentecost
  - Acts 8, Samaritan converts and Ethiopian government official
  - Acts 9, Saul of Tarsus
  - Acts 16, Lydia of Thyatira and Philippian jailer and his household

- Acts 18, believers in Corinth
- Acts 19, Ephesian disciples

Every example of baptism in the New Testament is believer's baptism (no examples of \_\_\_\_\_ baptism).

Note [Matthew 28:18-20](#). Baptism is an outward sign and symbol of what has happened inwardly and spiritually to a person who commits their life to Jesus \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ of baptism does not provide salvation.

### 2. Why Baptism Matters

- A. Baptism describes visually what \_\_\_\_\_ means.  
(Note [Romans 6:4-5](#))
- B. Baptism is an initial \_\_\_\_\_ of discipleship. (Note [John 14:15](#))
- C. Baptism represents \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. Baptism is a \_\_\_\_\_ testimony.
- E. Baptism represents \_\_\_\_\_!

### WHAT'S DRIVING ME?:

- Baptism is not an "\_\_\_\_\_ extra" for Jesus' followers.
- It's to be done as soon as you say '\_\_\_\_\_ ' to Jesus as Lord as possible (note [Acts 8:34-39](#)).
- The challenge is for you to make a bold commitment to be baptized.

Here are the 3 qualifications to engage in baptism:

1. You need to be a follower of Jesus.
2. You need to have not be baptized as an adult believer in Christ already.
3. You need to be at least 12 years old.

*(We do baptize children younger than 12 if they have parental support and have talked it through with our Riverside Kids leaders. Riverside Kids also has a discipleship class called **No Limits** for children under 12; they are given a chance to engage in baptism after completing this course; details at [myrc.church/nolimits](#))*

Don't get baptized:

- If you're not sure about following Jesus.
- If you're trying to impress others.
- If you think it would be a "cool" experience with your friends/family. Do what Jesus calls you to do.

**Take this important step and be baptized at our summer baptism next Sunday, August 7!** Baptism coaches are available at the end of the service to help you.

**Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!**

Let us know, too - fill out a connect card (digital\* or hard copy).

\*Text **riverside** to **94000**



## “WHEN TAILGATING IS GOOD”

Pastor Tom Lundeen

### MESSAGE NOTES

The reality is that every single person...is driven by something.

Drive = to guide, control, direct.

Tailgating when you're driving is a bad thing to do. But tailgating in following Jesus is a very important thing to do. Staying close to Jesus and following in His footsteps in every way should be the goal of every Jesus follower, and that includes water baptism.

### 1. What the New Testament Tells Us About Water Baptism

- A. What baptism means - "Baptizo" = "to dip...to immerse"
  - I would have those who are to be baptized to be entirely immersed, as the work imports and the mystery signifies. (Martin Luther)
  - The word 'baptize' signifies to immerse. It is certain that immersion was the practice of the ancient church. (John Calvin)
  - Buried with Him, alludes to baptizing by immersion according to the custom of the first church. (John Wesley)
- B. John the Baptist - his ministry shows us that baptism was not a new idea invented by Christians, or even by John the Baptist.
  - Baptism = always a symbolic act.
  - John the "Baptizer" practiced a baptism that symbolized repentance. (note [Matthew 3:7-11a](#)).
- C. Baptism of Jesus - His baptism was symbolic of a number of things:
  - It was to "fulfill all righteousness" (note [Matthew 3:15](#))
  - Fulfilled the mission of John the Baptist and marked the start of Jesus' public ministry.
  - Jesus identified Himself with the sinful condition of humanity which He had come to save.
  - It is an example to all His followers.
- D. Other New Testament examples - baptism practiced very soon after commitment to Jesus Christ, so much so that often baptism and salvation closely tied together:
  - Acts 2, Pentecost
  - Acts 8, Samaritan converts and Ethiopian government official
  - Acts 9, Saul of Tarsus
  - Acts 16, Lydia of Thyatira and Philippian jailer and his household

- Acts 18, believers in Corinth
- Acts 19, Ephesian disciples

Every example of baptism in the New Testament is believer's baptism (no examples of infant baptism).

Note [Matthew 28:18-20](#). Baptism is an outward sign and symbol of what has happened inwardly and spiritually to a person who commits their life to Jesus by faith. The act of baptism does not provide salvation.

### 2. Why Baptism Matters

- A. Baptism describes visually what salvation means. (Note [Romans 6:4-5](#))
- B. Baptism is an initial test of discipleship. (Note [John 14:15](#))
- C. Baptism represents humility.
- D. Baptism is a public testimony.
- E. Baptism represents victory!

### WHAT'S DRIVING ME?:

- Baptism is not an "optional extra" for Jesus' followers.
- It's to be done as soon as you say 'YES!' to Jesus as Lord as possible (note [Acts 8:34-39](#)).
- The challenge is for you to make a bold commitment to be baptized.

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