

Are Baptism and Communion a Big Deal?

I. Introduction

- A. Mark 8:35 (NAS) *"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it."*
- B. In order to find meaning and purpose in life, you have to give your life away!
- C. The idea of a "sacrament" is something that's ordinary, but God uses it to make it a vehicle for what is extraordinary.
- D. For 2,000 years, Christians have practiced these sacraments at great cost.

II. The Sacrament of Water Baptism

- A. What is the meaning of water baptism?
 - 1. Matthew 28:19 (NAS) *"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."*
- B. How much water is needed for water baptism?
 - 1. It is Jesus who cleanses us!
- C. Is baptism a guarantee of getting into heaven when I die?
- D. Is baptism only for adult followers of Jesus, or is it also for infants?
 - 1. Water baptism is an outward expression of an inward decision to follow Jesus Christ.
- E. Can I still get into heaven if I've never been water baptized?
 - 1. Our next water baptism, at the Glendale campus, is going to be November 17-18. (Sign up for one of the baptism classes.)

III. The Sacrament of Communion

- A. I Corinthians 11:27 (NLT) *So anyone who eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord unworthily is guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.*
- B. Jesus, who is always present, at all times and in all places, is present in a very special way when we partake in communion!
- C. Luke 22:19-20 (NLT) ¹⁹ *He took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."* ²⁰ *After supper he took another cup of wine and said, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you."*

D. In the Bible, when you “remember” something, if you do it right, what was real at an earlier time becomes real once again!

1. You also take time to remember what Jesus has done in your life!

IV. Conclusion