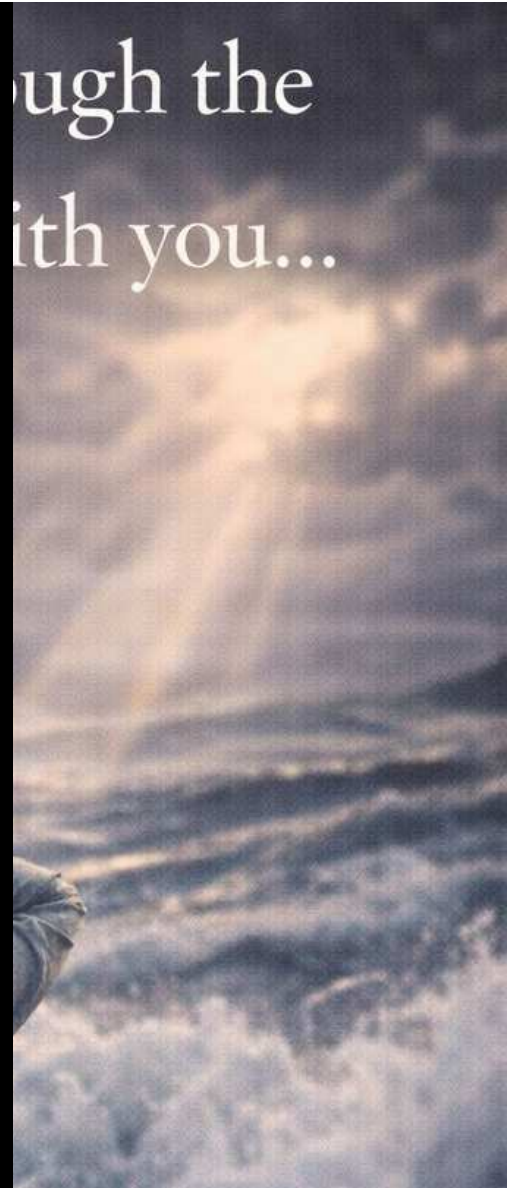




God With Us

Matthew 28:18-20

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- **Isaiah 43:2a NIV**, “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you”
- **Genesis 7:16 NIV**, The animals going in were male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the Lord shut him in.
 - If God seals you in, you are safe from the judgement that is coming, you are sealed with a seal that cannot be broken
 - **Genesis 8:18-19 NIV**, 18 So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives. 19 All the animals and all the creatures...

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- **Joshua 3:15-17 NIV**, 15 Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, 16 the water from upstream stopped flowing. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. 17 The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

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- **Joshua 4:5-7 NIV**, “Go over before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, 6 to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.”

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- **Matthew 3:13-20 NIV**, 13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. 14 But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” 15 Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.
 - As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

Scripture

- **Matthew 28:18-20 ESV**, 18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in (or into) the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
 - **TLB**, “be sure of this—that I am with you always, even to the end of the world.”

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- The giving of rings in a marriage ceremony
 - It's an outward expression of an inward reality
 - “I give this ring as a visible token of my love”
- Baptism is an outward expression of an inward reality
- Why do we baptize?

Baptism is commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ

- **Vs. 19**, Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them
 - It is uncompromisingly commanded and ordained by our Lord Jesus until he returns
 - It is the first act of obedience commanded by Jesus
- **Vs. 20**, “And behold, I am with you”

Baptism expresses our being joined with the death and resurrection of Christ

- Baptism expresses our union or joining together with Christ in his death and resurrection
 - Union with the Jewish sacrifices
 - Look upon this animal as you do me
 - May you transfer my sin debt unto this sacrifice letting it bear the penalty of my sin

Baptism expresses our being joined with the death and resurrection of Christ

- **Romans 6:3-4 ESV**, 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 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.
 - When we trust in Christ, his death counts as our death; his resurrection counts as our resurrection
 - And then in baptism, we dramatically portray what happened spiritually when we received Christ

Baptism expresses our being joined with the death and resurrection of Christ

- **Romans 6:3-4 ESV**, 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 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.
 - Our old self of unbelief and rebellion and idolatry is no longer our master
 - And our new identity, a person of faith and submission and treasuring Christ, came into being — all of that through faith
 - Not by the water, but through our faith

We believe baptism is to be by immersion

- Greek for baptize means “dip” or “immerse”
- It best describes the portrayal of death and burial and resurrection through going down into water as into a grave, and then coming back up out
- It is how the early church performed baptisms

We believe baptism is to be by immersion

- **Acts 8:36-39 ESV**, 36 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” 38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

Baptism is to be done in the name of the triune God

- **Vs. 19**, “baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”
 - There is a holy appeal to God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit to be present in this act, and make the portrayal/picture true and real in what it says about the work of redemption in our life
- There’s no salvation without the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit

Baptism is to be done in the name of the triune God

- When we call upon their name — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — we're depending upon them, all of them
 - And we're honoring them
 - And we're saying that this act of baptism is by them and for them
- “in the name of” – by the authority of, by the provision of, by the grace of, for the glory of

Baptism is an outward demonstration of our inward faith

- Baptism is an expression of faith, and therefore only for believers, which is why we don't baptize infants, who are not able to believe yet
- **Colossians 2:12 ESV**, “having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.”

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- Baptism was and is closely connected to being an active member of a local church
- In the mind of the apostles, to be united to Christ by faith through baptism was to be united to the body of Christ
 - Growing in faith as a disciple
 - Serving Christ by serving others
 - Worshipping Christ by worshipping with others

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- Remember what God promised through His prophet Isaiah
 - **Isaiah 43:2a NIV**, “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you”



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