

The Commands of Jesus: 4

Be Baptized

Ruth: What it looks like to follow

Ruth 1:1-18 In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. ² The man's name was Elimelech, his wife's name Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

³ Now Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴ They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, ⁵ both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶ When she heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, Naomi and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there. ⁷ With her two daughters-in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah.

⁸ Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the LORD show kindness to you, as you have shown to your dead and to me. ⁹ May the LORD grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband."

Then she kissed them and they wept aloud ¹⁰ and said to her, "We will go back with you to your people."

¹¹ But Naomi said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? ¹² Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me — even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons— ¹³ would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD's hand has gone out against me!"

¹⁴ At this they wept again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵ "Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her."

¹⁶ But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me."

¹⁸ When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her. NIV

A disciple with a good heart follows.

There is one important reason we should get baptized.

Matthew 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." NIV

Mateo 28:18-20 Jesús se acercó entonces a ellos y les dijo:

—Se me ha dado toda autoridad en el cielo y en la tierra. ¹⁹ Por tanto, vayan y hagan discípulos de todas las naciones, bautizándolos en el nombre del Padre y del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo, ²⁰ enseñándoles a obedecer todo lo que les he mandado a ustedes. Y les aseguro que estaré con ustedes siempre, hasta el fin del mundo. NVI

Our questions and hesitations with baptism can be overcome.

Why get baptized if it doesn't lead to salvation?

Why get baptized if I've already been baptized?

Why get baptized when it's a little weird and uncomfortable?

Why Jesus asked us to get baptized:

- Brings you to a clear decision point

- Symbolizes a cleansing

- Symbolizes Christ's death and resurrection

Romans 6:3-4 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. NIV84

Romanos 6:3-4 ¿Acaso no saben ustedes que todos los que fuimos bautizados para unirnos con Cristo Jesús en realidad fuimos bautizados para participar en su muerte? ⁴ Por tanto, mediante el bautismo fuimos sepultados con él en su muerte, a fin de que, así como Cristo resucitó por el poder del Padre, también nosotros llevemos una vida nueva. NVI

Colossians 2:11-12 When you came to Christ, you were "circumcised," but not by a physical procedure. It was a spiritual procedure — the cutting away of your sinful nature. ¹²For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to a new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead. NLT84

Colosenses 2:11-12 Además, en él fueron circuncidados, no por mano humana, sino con la circuncisión que consiste en despojarse del cuerpo pecaminoso. Esta circuncisión la efectuó Cristo. ¹² Ustedes la recibieron al ser sepultados con él en el bautismo. En él también fueron resucitados mediante la fe en el poder de Dios, quien lo resucitó de entre los muertos. NVI

- Because it is right and proper.

Matthew 3:15 Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John [the Baptist] consented. NIV

Mateo 3:15 —Hagámoslo como te digo, pues nos conviene cumplir con lo que es justo —le contestó Jesús. Entonces Juan consintió. NVI