

# Baptism

Why Do Confessional Lutheran Christians Baptize?

The answer is easy. Jesus tells Christians to do so. This is a command.

In the Greek language it is an Imperative. "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)

What type of power does baptisms have?

It has the power to make disciples of people. In other words there is so much power in baptism that it brings people to faith in Jesus.

Who are we to baptize?

All nations. This includes adults and babies / infants. Baptism is all inclusive. ALL Nations. It is not exclusive. Further Passages for study on Baptism.

Acts 2:38-39 – Baptism is for the forgiveness of sins, and it is for you and your children.

Acts 16:25-34 – The Jailer and his whole family were baptized. Children and adults. They were washing the wounds of Paul & Silas so it is easy to picture that the water used for baptism would have come from the basin used to wash the wounds.

Acts 8:26-40 – We see that when an adult is brought to faith the Holy Spirit leads the believer to recognize the importance of baptism and they too will long for baptism.

Ephesians 4:3-7 – How many times do we need to be baptized? ONCE! Scripture tells us this and if we are not going to trust the first baptism, then why would we trust the second baptism. "Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." (Heb. 1:1)

Genesis 17:1-27 – Circumcision was the sign of the Covenant to Abraham and the generations throughout the Old Testament. Every male child was to be circumcised on the 8th day. Circumcision is the O.T. equivalent to N.T. Baptism.

Ephesians 1:13-14 – We were sealed by the Holy Spirit. The seal of God = Faith in Jesus.

I Corinthians 6:11 – We were washed by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 6:2-4 – We are baptized with Christ.

Matthew 3:13-17 – Jesus is baptized. We see the Trinity. It does not say that Jesus was submerged. If we make submersion into a law or requirement of baptism, then it becomes a work that we do. Submersion, sprinkling, pouring are all acceptable. The power comes from the Holy Spirit working through the Word of God.

Psalms 51:5 – Why do we need baptism? Because we need the forgiveness of sins even from the moment we were conceived.

John 14:15 & John 14:23-24 – Jesus says, If You love Me, you will obey me and keep my commandments. Jesus commanded baptism in Matthew 28:18-20.