

# THE SYMBOLS OF SALVATION

Jesus never asked His disciples to remember His birth. But He did instruct them to remember His death and resurrection. He gave the church two visible symbols (called “*ordinances*”) as reminders of His death. These two ordinances are: Baptism and The Lord’s Supper.

## I. THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING BAPTIZED

### 1. WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

A. To follow the example set by Christ.

*“At that time Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized by John in the river.”*  
Mark 16: 16

B. Because Christ commands it.

C. It demonstrates that I’m really a believer.

### 2. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM?

A. It illustrates Christ’s burial and resurrection.

B. Baptism illustrates my new life as a Christian.

*“When anyone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. The old life has passed away and a new life has begun.”* 2 Corinthians 5:17

C. Baptism visibly demonstrates my obedience to Christ’s commands.

*“Those who obey My commandments are the ones who love Me. And because they love Me, My Father will love them, and I will love them. And I will reveal Myself to each one of them.”* John 14:21

### 3. WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED BY IMERSION?

A. To follow Christ’s example – Jesus was baptized this way.

B. Every baptism in the Bible is by immersion.

C. The word “baptize” means “to immerse” or to “dip under water.”

D. It best symbolizes a burial and resurrection.

### 4. WHEN SHOULD A BELIEVER BE BAPTIZED?

*“Those who believed and accepted His message were baptized.”*

*“Simon himself believed and was baptized.”* Acts 8:13

*“But when they believed Philip as he preached the Good News and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.”* Acts 8:12

5. WHY IMMERSION AND NOT SPRINKLING? (DISCUSSED IN CLASS)
6. WHY IS THERE ONLY BAPTISM OF BELIEVERS AND NOT INFANTS?  
(DISCUSSED IN CLASS)

## THE MEANING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is an object lesson that represents a great spiritual truth for believers.

### I. WHAT IS THE LORD'S SUPPER? (1 COR. 11:23-26)

#### 1. IT IS A SIMPLE ACT.

*"The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, **took bread**..." (vs. 23)*

#### 2. IT IS A REMINDER.

*"...and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; eat it **in remembrance** of me.'*" (vs. 24)

#### 3. IT IS A SYMBOL.

*"In the same way, He took the cup, saying, '**This cup** is the new covenant in my blood; drink it to remember me.'*" (vs. 25)

#### 4. IT IS A STATEMENT OF FAITH.

*"For whenever you eat the bread and drink the cup, **you proclaim the Lord's death** until He comes back."* (vs. 26)

### II. WHO SHOULD TAKE THE LORD'S SUPPER?

...Only those who are already **believe**. (Mark 14:22-26)

*"For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment upon himself." 2 Cor. 11:29*

### III. HOW DO I PREPARE MYSELF FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER?

*“Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A person ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.” 1 Cor. 11:27-28*

By...

**1. Self-Examination**

*1 Cor. 11:28*

**3. Recommitment**

*Rom. 12:1*

**2. Confessing My Sins**

*1 John 1:9*

**4. Restoring Relationships**

*Matt. 5:23-24*

## **IV. WHEN AND HOW OFTEN SHOULD WE OBSERVE THE LORD'S SUPPER?**

Jesus never said when or how often believers should observe The Lord's Supper. He instituted it on a Thursday night. Since it is a 'supper', it may seem more appropriate to observe it at an evening service. We celebrate the Lord's Supper every other Sunday, during our morning worship service.