

# Preparing for Baptism

Read Luke 3:1-18

**1) What is John the Baptist's baptism about? (3, 8-14)**

**2) What is different about Jesus' baptism, according to John? (15-18)**

*Luke also wrote the book of Acts. He records the promise of Jesus - after his resurrection, and just before he went back to heaven (his ascension):*

*Act 1:8 "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses .... to the ends of the earth."*

*Ten days later they received the Holy Spirit (2:1-4) and Peter preached the first sermon of the new church (2:14-39).*

*Read the end of it. 2:36-42*

**3) Why are the people "cut to the heart? (36)**

**4) What does Peter's reply mean? (38)**

*Note: Repent = a change of mind; a change of heart; a change of direction of life.*

*Baptise = from the Greek word bapto meaning "to dip"*

**5) When Peter tells the people to be baptised, does he mean in water or with the Holy Spirit?**

**6) Do you think it is possible to be baptised in water, without being baptised in the Holy Spirit?**

**7) Do you think it is possible to become a Christian without being baptised in the Holy Spirit?**

**8) What is the consequence of repenting and being baptised?**

*Note: Fellowship = partnership with others in the good news of Jesus, seeking to achieve the aims of the partnership together*

*Read Romans 6:1-4. The apostle Paul argues that when someone becomes a Christian - which he calls "being baptised into Christ Jesus (3) - our old life was baptised into his death and buried with him, and we are then given a new life to live, "as Christ was raised from the dead."*

**9) What has baptism in water got to do with this?**

Read Romans 6:11-13.

**10) What effect should there be in your life when you become a Christian?**

Some more verses about baptism:

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 The body is a unit; though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptised by one Spirit into one body - whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

Galatians 3:26-29 You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Matthew 28:18-20 Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising 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."

***Question to think about: Are you ready to be baptised?***