

LESSON 21

Dive

IN TO LIVE AGAIN

INTRODUCTION

There are moments in life when the weight is too much to carry. Mistakes, guilt, regret, cycles you can't break, memories you wish you could erase the kind that sit heavy no matter how much time passes. And even when you push forward, some things don't leave on their own. They cling. They drain. They bury you from the inside.

The Bible presents a bold invitation: if something in you, needs to die, let it die in God's hands... so something new can rise in its place. That's what baptism is. Not a ritual, not a formality, not a symbolic gesture but a funeral for the old you and a resurrection for the new you.

It's the only grave, where going under means coming back stronger. The only burial that ends in life. You're not disappearing beneath the water you're coming back to life.

We have arrived at the last lesson of this Bible course. The lesson that invites us once and for all to be followers of Jesus.

EXPLORING THE BIBLE

A. The Great Commission

When Jesus rose and before ascending to heaven, He left His disciples a command that would shape the Christian mission: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19-20, NKJV).



B. What baptism really means?

Paul explains it in words that go beyond symbolism (Romans 6:3-4): Baptism is not just water; it is a powerful declaration that we have died to sin, that the old life is behind us, and that we now walk in a renewed existence through the power of Christ. It is also a symbol of cleansing (Acts 22:16, NKJV).

However, the Bible shows that not everyone is ready to take this step. Clear conditions exist: first, believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior (Acts 8:37, NKJV); second, sincerely repent of sins (Acts 2:38, NKJV); and third, receive instruction in God’s Word (Matthew 28:20, NKJV). Baptism is not an impulsive act or an empty ritual; it is the fruit of a conscious and well-founded decision.



C. The correct mode

Scripture is also precise about the correct mode: Jesus Himself was baptized in the Jordan and came “up out of the water” (Matthew 3:16, NKJV), showing that He was fully immersed. The Greek term baptízō literally means “to immerse” or “to plunge into water.” Biblical baptism is not a few drops on the forehead, but a total experience, a living representation of burial and resurrection in Christ.





POINTS TO REFLECT ON

1. What does it mean for you to take a public step of faith?

2. What old life do you need to bury?

3. How can you live the “new life” every day?

PERSONAL DECISION

Today you are facing one of the most important decisions of your life. Baptism is not an empty ritual or a church requirement: it is a total surrender of your heart to Christ. By entering the water, you publicly declare that you leave your old life behind and want to walk in newness of life with Him.

Do not focus on your weaknesses or fears: baptism is not for those who are already perfect, but for those who recognize their need for Jesus. It is the beginning of a path of grace, not the graduation from a life without mistakes.

If today you feel God’s call in your heart, do not delay. Do not say, “Later, when I am ready.” The time to start anew is now.

PRACTICAL TIPS FOR THIS LESSON

“What if I was baptized as a baby?”

Infant baptism never appears in the Bible. In all Scripture, baptism is a conscious act based on faith and repentance (Acts 2:38; Acts 8:37, NKJV).

“Doesn’t God know my heart without baptism?”

Of course, God knows your heart. But baptism is not to inform God—it is to declare publicly your decision. It is the visible way to show the invisible: your faith in Jesus.

“Why must it be by immersion and not sprinkling?”

Baptism represents death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6:3-4, NKJV). Only by immersion in water is this biblical truth reflected: dying to sin, burying the old

life, and rising to a new life in Christ. The Greek word baptízō literally means “to immerse” or “to plunge into water.” That is why Jesus Himself was baptized this way (Matthew 3:16, NKJV).

“Why wait to fix my life before baptism?”

Many think, “When I am better, I will be baptized.” But baptism is not the graduation from a perfect life; it is the beginning of walking with Christ.

“So, what does it mean to be baptized?”

It means committing to Christ. Publicly saying: “I belong to Jesus, I want to live united with Him, and let Him transform me day by day.”



DID YOU KNOW...?

Biblical baptism was always by immersion and of people who consciously believed in Jesus. Historical evidence is clear:

■ **In the early centuries**, Christians were baptized in rivers, lakes, or large baptisteries where the person was fully immersed. Ruins of ancient churches, like in Ephesus and Rome, still show baptisteries designed for this purpose.

■ **Infant baptism and sprinkling** did not appear until several centuries later, introduced for human convenience and not by Christ or the apostles. It was a practice that spread for cultural and social reasons, not biblical.

■ The original Greek term *baptízō* never means “to sprinkle” but “to immerse.” This confirms that baptism is a symbol of burial and resurrection, something only represented by going in and out of the water (Romans 6:3-4, NKJV).

IMPORTANT TIP

Do not let human traditions overshadow what Christ established. If you already believe in Jesus, take the step of biblical baptism: immerse in water, bury your old life, and rise to a new one in Him. It is worth it—giving yourself to Jesus is worth it. Living hope.

KEY TEXT

—“WHOEVER
BELIEVES AND
IS BAPTIZED

WILL BE SAVED; BUT
WHOEVER DOES NOT
BELIEVE WILL BE
CONDEMNED”

(Mark 16:16, NKJV).



FINAL TIP

In many cultures, life's decisive moments are marked with visible symbols: a signature on a contract, a ring in marriage, a gown at graduation. They are gestures that tell the world: "I have made a decision, and my life will never be the same."

Baptism is precisely that in the Christian life: a public declaration of an inner change. It is not a mere ritual nor a symbolic washing, but the act by which a person expresses that he or she has decided to unite with Christ, to die to the old life, and to rise to a new existence in Him.

Jesus Himself instituted it with His words: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:16, NKJV). And He, who had no sin, was baptized to leave us an example of obedience and commitment (Matthew 3:13-17, NKJV).

Baptism is more than a religious rite: it is the beginning of a new story. It represents a personal covenant with God, a confirmation that we have accepted His grace and are willing to walk with Him.

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CONCLUSIÓN

This isn't the end of your story. It's the moment your real story begins. God doesn't ask for you to be perfect before you come to Him, He asks for surrender. He takes the guilt you couldn't erase, the wounds you couldn't heal, the habits you couldn't break, and He buries them, so they never own you again.

Then He raises in you a new heart, new freedom, new direction, new future. Baptism isn't about what you leave behind it's about who you rise to become.

Diving in to live again is the boldest decision a human being can make... and the one choice that can change your story forever.

EVALUATE YOUR LEARNING

1. According to Romans 6:3–4, what does baptism represent in the life of the believer?

- a) A symbolic rite with no practical implications
- b) A cultural requirement of the church
- c) The burial of the old life and the beginning of a new life in Christ
- d) An external sign that has no relationship to faith

2. What is the biblical mode of baptism according to the example of Jesus and the meaning of the term baptízō?

- a) Sprinkling water on the head
- b) Infant baptism without personal decision
- c) Full immersion in water
- d) Any form according to tradition

3. Mention two biblical conditions necessary before baptism.

4. Why should baptism not be postponed indefinitely according to the lesson?

WHAT MOST CAUGHT YOUR ATTENTION IN THIS LESSON

Do you want to know more about this lesson?

We want to accompany you every step of the way on your spiritual journey, not just through knowledge. By scanning the QR code below, you will access the video lesson for Lesson 21 and discover a comprehensive space designed to address your questions, strengthen your learning, and connect us in prayer.

