October 16, 2016 *The Bridge Bible Fellowship* Pastor Paul S. Brown Selected Scriptures

## "Tough Questions: Baptism - Part Two"

- I. What is Baptism?
- II. Does Baptism save us? (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21)
- III. Who should be baptized (professing believers or infants)?
  - A. Infants? (R.C. Sproul) No
    - B. Believers (MacArthur)

## IV. What does baptism signify? (Romans 6; 1 Cor. 12)

A. A new life (2 Cor. 5:17)

- B. A new identity (2 Tim. 2:26; 2 Cor. 4; Eph. 2)
- **C.** A new ethic (Rom. 6:12-14)
- D. A new Master (Rom. 6:23)
- E. A new family (1 Cor. 12)
- F. A new accountability
- G. A new life mission
- V. Why do so many "professing believers" choose not to be baptized?

## **Discussion & Application:**

- **1.** What is baptism? What does the word mean? Why should we do it? What positive things happen when we baptize people in front of the church, family, and friends?
- **2.** Read 1 Cor. 1:10-17. Why was Paul glad he had not baptized more individuals? Why do you think this is the first issue he addresses with the troubled church in Corinth?
- 3. Read Romans 6. Paul's main topic in this section of the book of Romans is sanctification (Rom. 1-3 = condemnation; Rom. 4-5 = justification; Rom. 6-8 = sanctification). Why does he discuss baptism in the midst of this topic? What does baptism signify and how does that pertain to our battle with sin? List as many principles as you can find in Romans 6 that will help you grow in holiness.
- **4.** Read 1 Cor. 12:12-27. What is Paul's main point? How does that relate to baptism? Should baptism be required for church membership? Why or why not?
- **5.** List some reasons why so many professing "Christians" in America have not been baptized. How would you answer each of those reasons?
- 6. Have you been baptized as a believer? If not, please contact the church office and pursue being baptized as a true follower of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 7. God expects every member of His Church to be actively participating in the ministries of a local church (Eph. 4:11-15; 1 Cor. 12; etc.). Are you actively participating at this time? Are you employing your spiritual gifts in genuine fellowship (partnership) in your local church? How specifically might you be more engaged in the ministry of your church to help it carry out its mission in the world for the glory of God?