



THE DISCIPLESHIP CHALLENGE 2023

GROWING & GOING

SUNDAY 19TH MARCH 2023

Baptism for You and Me

Romans 6: 1-7 and Acts 8:34-39 / Ps. Paul Curtis

- Death and Repentance are no small thing (Rom 6:3)
- But it delivers new life (Rom 6:4-7)
- Totally cleansed, no more guilt or shame (Acts 8: 36-38)
- Set free to live a life of purpose Acts 8: 39A
- A life that brings great joy Acts 8: 39B

The Bible says the cross is an offence to many people. What do you think that means – Why is that the case? What is about the cross that makes it non-offensive to you? Share the ways that you sometimes struggle to die to yourself. Repentance is also required – how is that different from confession?

The big picture now makes sense. We die to self so that we can live. How would you explain that to a non-Christian friend? How is God being in control a good thing – it goes against all worldly thinking. The story of Philip/ Eunuch demonstrates clearly how God is at work, trying all the time to get our attention. What truth is God challenging you to invest fully in now?

Baptism is symbolically demonstrating our complete cleansing as we go into the water and then come up out of it.

This new life of Jesus means we no longer experience shame and guilt. Read Colossians 1:22. Why is this so important if we are to experience new life?

Spirit Baptism commissions us to seek out God's unique purpose for our life. Philip/Eunuch both went in different directions. Why is overcoming guilt and shame so important if we are to be effective in our calling to pursue God's purposes?

We read in v39 that he went on his way rejoicing. Share together why Philip/Eunuch and God himself were all now rejoicing. Read Acts 22: 12-16. The challenge to Paul is, what are you waiting for? What aspect of God's new life do you need to take hold of right now? What could God be referring to in your life if He was to say to you, what are you waiting for?



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