

# A Publication of the Port Orchard Church of Christ September 17, 2023

## Back To Basics

By Melvin Byrd, reprinted from the *RENEWAL* bulletin, May 16, 2000

There are basics which, though not understood fully and completely by anyone, must be understood well enough by everyone to be accepted and obeyed. Baptism is one of those basics.

Can I share with you some of what the Bible says about baptism?

- v Jesus was baptized. He did it because it was the right thing to do to "fulfill all righteousness." (Matthew 3:15).
- v Jesus commissioned his followers to, "go and make disciples of all nations, (by) baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." (Matthew 28:19).
- v The assurance of Jesus is, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved..." (Mark 16:15).
- v On that great Day of Pentecost discussed in Acts 2, when the full gospel was preached for the very first time the people came asking, "What shall we do?" They were told, "Repent and be baptized, everyone of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins." (Acts 2:38).
- v The intent of baptism, the goal of it, the thing accomplished in it is ... "the forgiveness of your sins." (Acts 2:38).
- v As more people responded to the gospel like those did on that Pentecost Day, "the Lord added to their number daily those who being saved." (Acts 2:47).
- v Baptism is referred to in Scripture as both a death and a new birth. Looking closely at the new birth of John 3 and the death of Romans 6, baptism actually births new life out of death.
- v Baptism is that event of faith through which people become children of God. (Galatians 3:27).

Now a few important points!

1. Baptism, by definition, is full and complete immersion... not sprinkling and not pouring, but submersion, going all the way under, dunking if you please. The Jordan River was often shallow and muddy. John chose a particular place in that river to baptize, "because there was plenty of water." (John 3:23).
2. Baptism is a passive event, not an active one. In other words no one can baptize himself. The person being baptized has no active role in that event. One simply submits to having baptism done to him/her. Someone else has to do the work.
3. Baptism is done only to adults, never to infants in the Bible. Baptism is of non-effect upon an infant who is, in fact, without guilty of sin and is incapable of such things as repentance, obedient faith and commitment.
4. 1. The power and effect of baptism is determined, not simply by the event, but by the faith and repentance of the one being baptized.

My conclusion from all of this is that baptism is absolutely necessary for the forgiveness of sins and for membership in the church of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Then, what do you call unbaptized believers?

I Not "Christians." A Christian is one who is "like Christ." Jesus Christ was baptized. Anyone, therefore, who refuses baptism is not like Christ.

I Not "members of the church." According to Acts 2, the Lord added to the church those who were being saved. And that salvation came when they were baptized for the forgiveness of their sins. (Acts 2:38). Biblically, the only way anyone is added to the church is by being baptized.

I Not "saved." Jesus, himself, spoke clearly when he said, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." (Mark 16:16) I don't know about you, but I simply cannot set aside what Jesus said and pronounce an unbaptized person saved.

I Not "children of God." Paul says, "You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." (Galatians 3:26-27) Those who have not been baptized have no Biblical claim to sonship or daughtership. (*Of course, in the broadest, most general sense...every person, regardless of how good or evil he becomes, was created by God and is in this sense his child.*)

I Not "born again." Jesus calls us to a new birth to experience new life. (John 3) And according to the writings of the Apostle Paul one comes forth to new life out of baptism. (Romans 6).

So what do you call unbaptized believers? Well, I don't know. But, the best I can come up with is ... ugh ... is ... "unbaptized believers."

"Man, that's harsh!"

Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to sound harsh at all! I did, however, intend to be honest and to show Biblical integrity! If I have missed it, please help me know that.

~mb

# Our Prayer List

- While on a cruise to Alaska with his wife, son and daughter and their families , John Snypp suffered a heart attack along with having Covid. John is in the hospital in Ketchikan and Dave is with him. His wife, Julie and his daughter and her family are on the cruise ship until Saturday. Please pray for all of them.
- Pray for all those who are traveling to Klamath Falls for Kathy Bedford's service to have a safe trip.
- Continued prayers for Penny's healing from the accident. Praise that she was protected from more serious injuries.
- Isaac and I have COVID. We are having to be careful to keep his fevers medicated. Prayers for a good recovery for us and the rest of the family. Thank you so much, Sarah Benjamin
- Heather Velez's brother Chris Chilton has surgery scheduled for September 25 at which time the medical staff will determine whether they need to remove the kidney or just a portion of it.
- Thanks to everyone for your prayers. Frankie has come home in very good shape and will be living with her daughter Lisa in Olalla. Visits can be arranged.
- Pray for those who are recovering from Covid.
- Praise for the big improvement of Barbara Chasteen from her stroke.
- Continued prayers for the Cellitti and McDaniel families.
- Brooke Armenta still needs prayers as the medical staff figures out what treatment they can do for her.
- Pray for our schools – the administration, teachers and pupils for a safe and productive year.
- For all those who are struggling pray they may find peace.
- Prayers for Bruce ad Debbie Sharp's son Adam who has brain cancer.
- Pray for our SLT and ministries that they will make God-led decisions.
- Praise God for all he is doing for our church, our spiritual and physical blessings and needs.

## Mercy Mobile Needs

The Mercy Mobile is need of help! We are hoping to gather canned vegetables, pastas, and pasta sauces! We will have a box inside the lobby for the next several weeks for collections. If you can help, that would be amazing! As always, your love and support are greatly appreciated!

The Mercy Mobile Team

## Attention All Women

We will begin a Secret Sisters meeting this Saturday. The women from Ekklesia will also be joining us.

It will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month from 10:00am to noon, beginning on Saturday, September 16th and going through June.

If you are looking to get closer to God and to have closer unity with your sisters in Christ, then this is for you.

Our first meeting will be an orientation and name drawing. We will always have a meal prepared at the meeting to enjoy dinner together.

We will spend time with a devotional and prayer, as well as having craft nights, game nights, and theme nights.

The goal of this group will be to encourage each other as well as to get to know each other better.

## POCOC Web Site ( <http://pococ.weebly.com/> )

- Weekly Bulletin – Go to <http://pococ.weebly.com/> then click on Bulletin & Newsletters
- Pre-Covid audio sermons are also still online. Click on Teachings
- Current Event Calendar - Click on News & Events
- Live stream of worship services on YouTube Channel - Previous video recordings, too: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL\\_SrX11URAkOYw7JOR9ZIQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAkOYw7JOR9ZIQ) then click on the desired video. Please subscribe to be notified when new videos post or when we go live.



<b>Sunday Worship for</b> <b>September 17, 2023</b> (10:30 am – 12:00 – noon) (Children are dismissed for Children’s Church after communion)  Watch live-stream or after our worship time: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAkOYw7JOR9ZIQ">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAkOYw7JOR9ZIQ</a>					
Speaker: Trent Herbert	Singing Darrell Fry	Scripture: Trent Herbert	Prayer: Jon Powless	Communion: Brad Orser	Offering: Brad Orser
September Servers – Brian Bungart   Elijah Herbert   Dan Gross   Terry Bratcher					
<b>9:30 am Adult Class:</b> Auditorium Led by Trent Herbert			<b>Children Class:</b> Downstairs Two Classes: children and pre-teen		
Call Laura Fry or the Church Office (360-876-2604) for Zoom Meeting ID					
<b>Men’s Fellowship</b> Downstairs Fellowship Room Tuesdays - 10:00 am			<b>Ladies in the Word</b> Upstairs Overflow Room Tuesdays - 10:00 am		
<b>Bible Class &amp; Prayer</b> Colossians (in person or on Zoom) Wednesdays: 5:00 - 6:00 pm			<b>Ladies Prayer Group</b> LaDonna’s home Thursdays 10:00 am		
Port Orchard Church of Christ 4135 Carr Lane SE Port Orchard, WA 98366 360-876-2604 - churchpococ@gmail.com			September 10, 2023 - Tithes & Offerings – \$ 3,695.00		
			If you have any questions, please give me a call. God bless you. Gary Chasteen (cell) 360-731-4104		
Call Laura Fry or the Church Office (360-876-2604) for Zoom Meeting ID					

### **Communion and Tithes & Offerings**

The bread and fruit of the vine will be served during our communion time. You also have the option to pick up your communion supplies as you enter the auditorium. It contains both the juice and the bread.

There are also a few options for giving your tithes & offerings:

- 1) The collection box is in the foyer at the entrance to the auditorium.
- 2) Online bill-pay with your bank or credit union. Your bank will mail your check for you.
- 3) Mail your tithe/offering check directly to the Church address below. We have a lock mailbox.

### **Happy Birthday!**

**September:** Kayli Benjamin – 17, Pam Woodrow – 25, Eunice Orser – 29

**October:** Tim Duffy – 4, Bob McDaniel – 8, Lisa Bratcher – 13, Cindy Snead – 17, Paula Hill – 20 Laura Fry – 24, Sandi Warner – 18,

## God Is In This Story

### Verse 1

There's torn up pages in this book  
Words that tell me I'm no good  
Chapters that defined me for so long  
But the hands of grace and endless love  
Dusted off and picked me up  
Told my heart that hope is never gone

### Chorus

God is in this story  
God is in the details  
Even in the broken parts  
He holds my heart  
He never fails  
When I'm at my weakest  
I will trust in Jesus  
Always in the highs and lows  
The One who goes before me  
(God is in this story)

### Verse 2

So if the storm you're walking through  
Feels like it's too much and you  
Wonder if He even cares at all  
Hold on tight to what you know  
He promised He won't let you go  
The song of healing's written in His scars

### Bridge

If it reads like addiction  
If it reads like disease  
He's the One who frees the prisoner  
He's the healer of all things  
If it reads like depression  
If it reads broken home  
He's the One who holds your sorrow  
He won't leave you here alone

### Tag

Always in the highs and lows  
The One who goes before me  
God is in this story



<https://youtu.be/G7aCPamhvWA?si=AhhPKQ0HwrEKZHV2>

## God Is In This Story

CCLI Song # 7180561

Ethan Hulse | Jeff Pardo | Katy Nichole  
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