

Here For It

Baptism (Week 1)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

What: We must empty ourselves fully, then receive fully from Him.

How: Baptism is the opportunity to announce loud and proud, "I'm here for it!"

Key Scriptures

Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have not life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. John 6:53-57 NIV

On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?" ... From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. John 6:60, 66 NIV

Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God." John 6:68-69 NIV

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing 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. Matthew 28:19-20 NIV

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. John 15:11 NIV

Baptism is the public celebration of a private decision.

Baptism:

- Demonstrates obedience.
- Celebrates new life.
- Ushers us into a greater community.

Start talking.

- What about a subtle and easy faith is appealing?
- Why are legalism and control sometimes attractive?

Start thinking.

- Read John 6:53-57. What is the metaphor Jesus is communicating? How might this represent a paradigm shift in how the Jews related to God?

- What are the promises for those that would consume the Son?
- How do these promises represent a shift away from the external laws the Jews had been living under?
- Read John 6:60, 66. Why was this a "hard teaching"? Why did this teaching cause them to stop following Jesus?
- Read John 6:68-69. What are the statements of faith Peter makes? Why did he and the rest of the twelve stay?

Start sharing.

- Read Matthew 28:19-20. How is the not only the Great Commission, but also a prescription for followers of Jesus?
- Why is baptism a central part of announcing you are here for it?
- If you have been baptized, describe why and how it impacted you.

Start doing.

- Take today, and each day forward, to consciously choose to empty yourself as you consume and receive all of Jesus.
- If you have chosen to believe in Jesus but have not yet been baptized, click [HERE](https://harborchurch.life/nextsteps) or visit **harborchurch.life/nextsteps** to register for the September 11 baptism service.
- Who will you invite to celebrate baptism?

Closing prayer.

Lord Jesus I confess that at times I may shy away from declaring before you and others, I am here for it. Help me to empty myself fully that I may receive you completely. And and I follow you, give me the passion to lead others to you, baptizing them in your name.