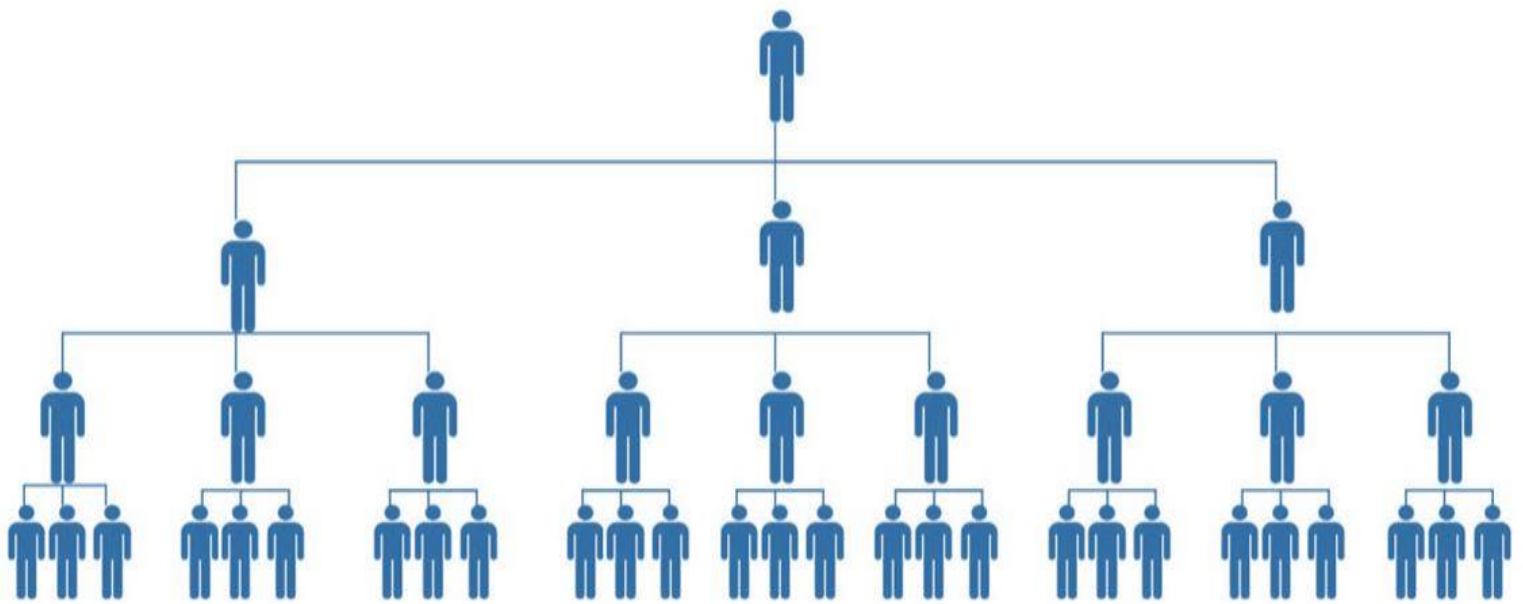


# Go Make Disciples

Lesson 6: Step 3 Preach



Discovering God's Word  
Bible Study Series

## Go Make Disciples

### Lesson 6: Step 3 Baptize

Learn how to present the gospel's  
plan of salvation and ask for a decision

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#### Discovering God's Word Bible Study Series

**Study Number:** DGW240

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**About the author:** My name is Eric Krieg. I am a disciple of Jesus, a Bible student, a truth seeker, and an evangelist. My interest is in using the Bible as my only guide in my faith. My desire is to help others understand the message of the Bible and pursue true, New Testament Christianity.

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**My plea:** It is my hope and prayer that you are searching for the truth that is contained in God's word, the Bible. My desire is to help you understand and obey these truths God has revealed in the pages of His word. It is to that end that I write this material. Please observe all of the Scripture references and evaluate whether the conclusions I have drawn are in harmony with God's word. If they are, I ask that you make honest application of those truths to your life and obey God's instructions.

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# Go Make Disciples

## Lesson 6:

### Step 3 Preach

When Jesus gave the “Great Commission” (see Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15-16), He outlined four steps to accomplish the work of making disciples for Him. The first step is “Go.” The second step is “Preach.” The third step is “Baptize.” And, the fourth step is “Continued Teaching.”

In the last two lessons, we have been focused on the work of “going” to find prospects and then preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ to them. Now, as we prepare to discuss the third step of the “Great Commission” (baptizing), we need to recognize how getting to this point is contingent on the first two. For, if you do not “go” and “preach,” there will not be anyone you will help be baptized into Christ!

To consider this, I want you to think about Jesus’ parable of the soils (read Luke 8:5-8, 11-15). As you do, you will want everyone you meet to be the good ground that receives the word and produces fruit. However, Jesus clearly teaches that there will be other kinds of soil that will not receive the word and/or produce fruit that pleases Him.

First, the majority of soil in this world will be the wayside soil that will never accept the word of God so as to be baptized. Then, of those who are obedient to the word and baptized, many of them will be unfruitful either because they will not endure the difficulties involved in living for Christ (like the rocky soil) or because they get distracted by the cares, riches, and pleasures of life (like the thorny soil).

Now, I want you to think about this parable as we prepare to talk about baptism because it should help you understand that if you want to increase the

number of people who are baptized and become fruitful followers of Jesus Christ, you will have to increase the amount that you do steps one and two! If you are only going and preaching sparingly, you will likely only baptize sparingly.

However, there are good chances that the number of baptisms will increase the more that you increase your efforts in going and preaching to the lost. Although there is certainly no guarantee that people will ever be obedient to the word of God, the likelihood of finding good soil will only increase when you are scattering as much seed as you possibly can. For, it is certain that there will be no harvest when the seed stays in the barn (Haggai 2:19)!

So, if you are being diligent to implement the things God’s word teaches about going and preaching, you will likely have opportunities to present the gospel’s plan of salvation to people during your lifetime and ask for their obedience. Although this is certainly one part of preaching, I want to focus on it more as we discuss baptizing someone in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

As you consider the responsibility to baptize, perhaps you do not have much experience presenting someone with the gospel’s plan of salvation and asking for their obedience. Perhaps the seriousness of this task makes you very nervous. So, the thought of reaching this point leaves you with several questions – such as: How do I present the gospel’s plan of salvation? How do I help people make the right applications of that plan of salvation? How do I ask for their obedience? How do I overcome the objections people have? Therefore, I hope this lesson provides you some guidance as you consider the third step in this disciple-making process.

## ***Teaching The Plan Of Salvation***

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Although baptism is a crucial element to salvation, it is certainly not the only thing God has required for salvation. And, even with baptism, there are many who do not properly understand the

subject. Therefore, you will need to learn how to teach the gospel's plan of salvation. As you think about these points from the perspective of the teaching ladder discussed in the previous lesson, these are primarily rungs four through six. We have to make sure that the prospect understands these points in order for their baptisms to please God.

## Teaching the need for salvation

The one you are studying the Bible with must come to the realization that he/she has sinned and of what his/her sin has done to his/her relationship with God. So, as you preach the gospel, you must make sure that sin is seen as mankind's greatest enemy – and is the common enemy of all mankind. For, you should not make the prospect feel as if he/she is the only sinner in the world – or even in the room. Instead, you can make it clear in your teaching that you had also sinned against God (without needing to get specific about the sins you had committed).

Reading from Romans 3 may suffice to make the point. Verse 10 says, "There is none righteous, no, not one" (continue reading through verse 18 if necessary). Then, verse 23 says, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Emphasize that the fact we have all sinned (who have reached the age of accountability)!

To "sin" means that we have all violated God's law. Actually, the Greek word for "sin" is an archery term. So, you might draw a circle with some smaller circles inside (representing a target). Then, help them visualize an arrow that misses its target could accurately be said to "sin" (miss the mark). In the same way, we "sin" whenever we miss the mark God has set for our lives in the pages of the New Testament. For, He has told us some things He wants us to do and some things He does *not* want us to do. Therefore, we "sin" whenever our lives go beyond His mark by doing things He does not want us to do (often called sins of "commission") and whenever our lives come up short of His mark by not doing the things He wants us to do (often called sins of "omission").

However, the prospect must understand that sinning against God is far more serious than just missing a target with an arrow. You must help

him/her recognize the great spiritual consequences for sinning against God. Romans 6:23 is an excellent passage to use. It says, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." This "death" is spiritual separation from God. And, if a person's life ends in this condition of spiritual death, he/she will experience the "second death" in the lake of fire the Scriptures call Hell (see Revelation 21:8). And, this is not just the consequences of "really bad" sins – but of every sin a person commits!

To illustrate this, I like to draw a simple picture. Draw two straight horizontal lines, each with jagged edges that break downward on the page – representing land that has broken. Above one side, draw a stick person representing the one who is in sin. Write "God" on the other side. The point is that sin has separated a person from God (Isaiah 59:1-2). And, this is serious because there is nothing that the sinner can do to earn his/her salvation. There is no way that any person could bridge the gap between himself/herself and God that has been created by sin.

Spiritual death is what every sinner has earned/deserved (it is called the "wages of sin"). Therefore, it is important to emphasize that no amount of good works (including baptism) could restore a sinner to a right relationship with God. As Ephesians 2:8-9 teaches, we simply cannot earn salvation after we have sinned against God. And, if this is where the Bible story ended, we would all be hopelessly lost in sin and headed for eternity in Hell's fire!

## Teaching God's part in salvation

Thanks be to God that this is *not* where the story ends! In fact, Romans 6:23 goes on to explain that "the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." So, God has provided the gift of eternal salvation in Heaven that no sinner deserves to experience! And, this gift has been provided through Jesus Christ. This is the first half of God's plan of salvation. In this part, you will demonstrate that God has done for the sinner what he/she could not do for himself/herself.

Take some time to walk the student through the things Jesus Christ has done for him/her in order

that he/she might be saved from his/her sins. John 3:16 provides an excellent summary of His sacrifice (and is a verse the prospect has probably heard before). “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” So, through Jesus’ life, death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus gave those who were lost in sin two wonderful gifts.

First, He gave them the opportunity to “not perish” in their sins that they do deserve to experience (i.e. avoid eternal punishment in Hell). God *not* giving people what they *do* deserve is often called God’s mercy. Second, He gave them the opportunity to “have everlasting life” they do not deserve to experience (i.e. in Heaven). God *giving* people what they do *not* deserve is often called God’s grace. And, God’s love has been demonstrated through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ to provide grace and mercy for all sinners (see Ephesians 2:1-10).

One point I especially like to emphasize is the one made in 2 Corinthians 8:9: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.” Jesus Christ was as rich as rich could be when He lived in Heaven. However, He *chose* to leave Heaven and come to this earth (becoming poor). The reason He did this is so that those who were spiritually destitute in sin (the prospect, yourself, and all sinners) could become spiritually rich so as to live in Heaven one day. Therefore, everything Jesus Christ endured on this earth was the product of this choice. He left the place where there was no pain, sorrow, suffering, evil, and death in order to come here and experience those things so that sinners could be saved through Him!

As you consider all of these things, you should make sure the prospect is familiar with some of the specifics of Christ’s life, death, burial, and resurrection. If they are not, walk them through a summary of the Biblical account. Make sure they realize why Jesus lived, how He lived, the sufferings He endured, the death He died, and that He was raised from the dead. If they are familiar with the account, perhaps you can just offer some brief

reminders and make sure they understand the Scriptures accurately.

As you make this point, come back to the picture you drew representing the separation sin has caused between the sinner and God. Now, draw a cross that bridges the gap between the two. On the vertical post of the cross, I like to write, “Jesus Christ.” For, He is the one who provides the bridge between the sinner and God. It is through Him that the sinner can be reconciled to God and have everlasting life in Heaven.

### **Teaching man’s part in salvation**

Now, the sinner must recognize that although God has done for him/her what he/she could not do for himself/herself, there is still something that God has required for salvation. Look at Romans 6:23 again. “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Notice that the gift of eternal life God has provided is located “in Christ Jesus our Lord.” So, we must search the Scriptures and do whatever God requires to come into Jesus Christ!

You should emphasize that God did for the sinner what the sinner could not do for himself/herself. But, He has left the sinner with personal responsibility in his/her salvation. As you come back to your illustration now depicting Christ’s cross as the bridge between the sinner and God, you should emphasize that God has left it up to the sinner to cross the bridge! Just because there is a bridge doesn’t mean a person will be saved. Just believing the bridge exists doesn’t mean a person will be saved. Instead, every sinner must take the necessary steps to cross the bridge! So, on the horizontal piece of the cross, I like to write, “Steps of Salvation.” Then, above the horizontal piece, I like to write out each step as we walk through this part of the study.

Now, before you identify what these steps are, take a moment (if you have not already done so) to ask the prospect if he/she believes himself/herself to already be a Christian and in a saved condition. If the answer is “yes,” ask what he/she was taught to do in order to be saved. Write that on another sheet of paper. Clearly distinguish where salvation came relative to him/her being baptized (if he/she has been

baptized). I usually list out what the individual tells me and draw a thick line representing the point he/she thought he/she was saved. For instance, many who have been associated with “protestant” (or, “evangelical”) churches will tell you that they were told to do the following: Hear God’s word, Believe in Jesus, Repent, Confess that they are sinners, and Ask Jesus into their hearts through prayer (i.e. the “Sinner’s Prayer). This is the point many believe they were saved. Then, they may or may not have been baptized after this.

The importance of getting this on paper *before* you present the gospel’s plan of salvation is because many people will convince themselves that they have done what you are about to present to them (when they really haven’t). So, after writing down what you have been told, express your appreciation for their answer and move on to considering what the Bible has to say. Make sure he/she understands that you are only interested in believing, teaching, and practicing what God’s word teaches.

The first step of salvation is hearing God’s word. You can consider passages like Romans 10:17 and Acts 18:8. This point usually doesn’t pose too much difficulty. People understand that someone cannot be obedient to a message he/she has never heard. So, just emphasize that he/she has been hearing you preach God’s word and now is hearing the plan of salvation.

The second step of salvation is believing Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Involved in this is believing who He is (which necessitates a belief in God) and what Jesus has done to save people from sin. You can consider passages like John 8:24, Acts 16:31, Romans 10:9-10, and Hebrews 11:6. On this point, it is often necessary to demonstrate that although mentally accepting the Bible truths about Jesus Christ is essential to salvation, a person is *not* saved by “faith only.” James 2:14-26 is helpful in making the point (particularly noting verse 24). Also, Matthew 7:21-23 can be used to help people see that many who profess Jesus as Lord and do some good things in His name will be lost in Hell because they do not obey all that God says.

The third step of salvation is repenting of past sin. You can consider passages like Luke 13:3, Acts

2:38, Acts 3:19, and Acts 17:30. Then, you may ask the one you are studying with what it means to “repent”? Make sure that he/she recognizes repentance as looking on his/her past sins with abhorrence (regretting that he/she had ever committed those sins) and determining to live differently in the future by living for God. Emphasize that repentance is not the actual change in a person’s life. Instead, repentance is the change in a person’s mind that will lead to a change in life. So, he/she does not have to make all the necessary changes to his/her life before he/she can be baptized. Instead, he/she must make the determination to make the necessary changes! If necessary, help the individual identify sins he/she needs to repent of (remembering what every sin does to his/her relationship with God).

The fourth step of salvation is confessing Christ. You can consider passages like Matthew 10:32-33, Acts 8:37, and Romans 10:9-10. Of these, Matthew 10:32-33 is not just applicable to a confession prior to a person being forgiven of sin – but also to the ongoing need to confess Jesus Christ throughout life. Then, Acts 8:37 is a good example of a man who made a confession before being baptized, saying, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” However, recognize that this verse is not found in some of the Greek manuscripts. Therefore, it is only given as a footnote in many Bible translations. Regardless, it is in perfect harmony with what is taught in Romans 10:9-10. This passage clearly teaches the need to confess Jesus as Lord with the mouth as a condition for salvation. Then, emphasize that the nature of the required confession is *not* a confession that he/she is a sinner (though this is acknowledged in repentance). Instead, it is a confession of the Lord Jesus. The Ethiopian’s confession in Acts 8:37 is a good way to make this confession (though it does not have to be made in that way).

The fifth step of salvation is baptism. You can consider passages like Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38, Acts 22:16, Romans 6:3-4, Galatians 3:26-27, and 1 Peter 3:20-21. In addition to demonstrating that baptism is only properly accomplished by an immersion in water (see Romans 6:3-4, Acts 8:38-39, and Matthew 3:16-17), you will need to demonstrate that God has given baptism as a

requirement for salvation. This is why baptizing is such an important step in the disciple-making process!

As you consider this with the individual, I like to illustrate the point this way. Draw a vertical line on a page. Below the line, write the words “Salvation,” “Forgiveness,” and “In Christ.” This line represents the point at which an individual is saved, forgiven of sins, and in Christ. Then, walk through each of the passages on baptism and make the student decide which side of the line baptism falls on. For instance, Mark 16:16 says, “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.” So, does Jesus teach that baptism comes before the point of salvation – or after it? Be prepared for the wrong answers at first. Therefore, be prepared to gently challenge their thinking and have them look at the verse again. If the individual is honest with the passages, you will have a whole list of passages about baptism on the left side of the line – demonstrating that baptism is essential to each one of those things.

In addition, consider Galatians 3:26-27. “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” Not only does this verse go on the left side of the line, but its truth can also be illustrated another way. Draw a circle and a stick figure outside the circle. In the circle, write “Christ.” Underneath that word, write “All spiritual blessings” (Ephesians 1:3), “Forgiveness” (Ephesians 1:7), and “Salvation” (2 Timothy 2:10; Romans 6:23). Emphasize that these are the things that are only found “in Christ.” Now, ask, “How does someone come into Christ – where all spiritual blessings, forgiveness, and salvation are?” Galatians 3:27 clearly indicates that a person is “baptized into Christ.” Therefore, he/she cannot be in Christ without being “baptized into Christ.” So, draw a line from the person into the circle and write “baptized into” above the line.

As you illustrate these things, you may have to help the one you are studying with recognize that being baptized after he/she believed he/she was saved and a Christian did not actually obey God’s command to be baptized. For, a person cannot be taught wrong and baptized right! Then, if there are any doubts that the individual has been baptized

according to the teachings of Scripture, emphasize that there is no harm in doing it again to be sure.

At the point of baptism, an individual is saved. However, the sixth step of salvation is then to remain faithful to Jesus Christ for the duration of a person’s life. You can use passages like Revelation 2:10 and Galatians 5:4 to emphasize the need to remain faithful and the fact that it is possible to fall from God’s grace.

On this point, you need to help the individual understand some basics about committing himself/herself to Christ. Remember that Jesus taught a person to count the cost of discipleship (see Luke 14:25-33). So, help him/her recognize some of the things that are involved in living for Christ. And, also help the individual recognize that becoming a Christian does *not* mean he/she will never sin again. However, help him/her recognize that if he/she does sin after becoming a Christian, God has provided a way to be forgiven again (by repenting, confessing the sin to God, and asking God for forgiveness, see Acts 8:22 and 1 John 1:9).

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## ***Asking For A Decision***

As you preach the gospel to people, you must put them in a position to make a decision about what they hear. Every step in God’s plan of salvation requires a “yes” or “no” answer. For, God’s plan of salvation is not just some story that should make people feel good. Instead, God has required people to actually obey His plan of salvation (which requires decisions to be made). Therefore, let’s consider some things that should help you ask for a decision when you have presented the gospel’s plan of salvation.

### **The need for patience**

I have emphasized the need for patience a couple of times in this study already. Now, I want to do it again. Remember that 2 Timothy 4:2 says, “Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.”

The fact is that many people will never be obedient to the plan of salvation – no matter how clearly it is presented. They may simply be like the wayside soil. Others may not be receptive to it as first, but also may continue to give you opportunities to plant and water seeds of truth in their hearts (as 1 Corinthians 3:5-7 teaches).

Rather than becoming quickly discouraged and moving on to another person, make sure you exercise the necessary patience. The fact of the matter is that the gospel's plan of salvation requires everyone to make changes to the ways they think, believe, and act. Some simply embrace these changes faster than others. So, some people may respond immediately to the plan of salvation, while you may need to continue to water those seeds for many weeks, months, or years before they will fully take root in the hearts of others.

For instance, not only does the gospel's plan of salvation make people decide about priorities and sinful things, but even deeply held beliefs can be impacted. For instance, suppose someone has thought he/she has been a Christian for many years as part of a denomination. Now, you are presenting him/her with information suggesting he/she has never been a Christian and is part of a church God does not approve. This can be a difficult truth to accept without giving a lot of thought to it. And, some people never get past these things.

Therefore, no matter what the situation is, make sure you are showing patience. Yet, you also must press for a decision and boldly demonstrate why it is so important to obey God's word. For, 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 clearly demonstrates that those who do not obey the gospel of Jesus Christ will experience God's vengeance and suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, being separated from God forever.

### **Draw necessary conclusions**

Typically, I like to help an individual reach a point where he/she is firmly convicted of his/her need to be Scripturally baptized before I help him/her make some difficult conclusions (if there are any others that need to be made). I do this because if he/she will not accept the truths about baptism, then

he/she will probably not accept any more difficult truths. Then, I also do this so that I am not cut off from the study before I have an opportunity to present the entire plan of salvation to him/her.

There are times you will need to address some difficult truth before you baptize a person. For, it is often easier to address these things before the person is baptized than afterward – and this is part of that person counting the cost of discipleship. For example, a person who is in an unscriptural marriage or relationship needs to repent of it. It is common for people today to either be in an unscriptural marriage or living with a boyfriend/girlfriend outside of marriage. If either is the case, that individual will need to be taught why the relationship is sinful and must be changed in order to please God. This individual will also need to be taught that he/she must not allow anything or anyone to come before Christ (see Matthew 10:34-39 and Luke 14:26).

Or, there are many times whenever teaching someone the gospel requires an individual to change the church he/she attends. Perhaps this individual attends a denominational church that is not part of the true church he/she can read about in the Bible. Surely, this kind of change may be difficult to accept at first. Yet, you will have to help this person understand the difference(s) between the church he/she attends and the church Christ has established (along with the blueprint of local churches).

Then, another example of a difficult conclusion that the prospect may reach is that those who have not and/or will not obey the truth you are teaching will spend eternity in Hell. This may include a loved one who has died. Or, this may include all a person's friends and relatives in the church he/she has been attending. Yet, you should emphasize what God says and the need for that person to obey the gospel in order to help others be saved. And, even if a loved one has died, Luke 16:19-31 shows that our loved ones who are lost in sin would want us to do what is right so that we can be saved.

Regardless of what the difficult truth is, you should have the heart of a shepherd and lead the one you are studying with to the truths contained in God's word. As 2 Timothy 2:24-26 says, don't



quarrel. Instead, be gentle, patient, and humble. Your only goal is to help the sinner come to his/her senses and lead him/her out of Satan's trap to the salvation that is found in Christ Jesus!

To do this, you will also need to be bold and fear God more than men. While it may be uncomfortable and even fearful to teach the truth and help people arrive at the proper conclusions, you must not allow these things to stand in your way of teaching what needs taught! Like the apostles, you must speak God's word with boldness (see Acts 4:31). This means that you must not hold back from saying what needs to be said in the way it needs to be said.

Furthermore, you must not fear how someone will react more than you fear God. When Jesus sent His apostles out to teach, He told them, "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matthew 10:28). Whether you think a person will accept the difficult truth or reject it, you must preach it all the same! This is preaching God's word "in season" and "out of season" (2 Timothy 4:2)! And, you never really know how someone will respond until you teach him/her.

### **Three possible responses**

As you teach the gospel in hopes of baptizing the individual into Christ, you will reach a point at which it is time to ask for a decision. And, you need to recognize that sometimes the decision will be "yes," sometimes it will be "no," and sometimes it will be, "I want to hear some more/I need time to think about it." But, these are the same responses to the gospel you can read about throughout the pages of the Bible.

For instance, consider when the apostle Paul was teaching in Athens (see Acts 17:16-34). Acts 17:32-34 says, "And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked, while others said, 'We will hear you again on this matter.' So Paul departed from among them. However, some men joined him and believed, among them Dionysius the Areopagite, a woman named Damaris, and others with them."

Even Jesus and the apostles had these same responses to the gospel's message. And, you should expect the same thing. So, always remember that the sower is not responsible for how the soil responds to the seed. The sower's job is just to sow the seed – and expect that the different results will be determined by factors outside of his/her control. Therefore, if the person you are studying with is never baptized, do not take this as failure on your part!

### **Overcoming objections**

Whenever you present the gospel to the individual you are studying with and ask for a decision, you should expect some people to offer some kind of objection to what you have taught. These objections should not be ignored. When these objections are raised in an honest and sincere way, the prospect is telling you what hinders him/her from being baptized. So, listen to the objection and do your best to lead the individual past the objection.

Some objections may concern the necessity of baptism for salvation. For instance, some may object, "Jesus never said, 'he who does not believe and is not baptized will be condemned' in Mark 16:16." "Peter commanded people to be baptized because they had already been forgiven in Acts 2:38 as an outward sign of an inward grace." "The thief on the cross was saved without being baptized." "Baptism is a work and we cannot earn salvation." "God only requires belief for salvation."

Or, some may raise objections as to why they are not obedient to the gospel on a larger level. For instance, some may object, "I'm already living a morally good life." "I'll get around to it some day." "I don't want to go to church with a bunch of hypocrites." "I know that I'll just mess up and sin again." "I don't want to change." "I don't want to condemn my loved ones to Hell."

The fact is that there are many objections people may raise to the truth you present them with and the actions they should take. However, rather than growing frustrated with them, stay patient and help them work through their objections. Use their objections as opportunities to study the Bible with them more. Learn what it is they are objecting to and

search the Scriptures together for the answer. Encourage them to accept the Bible's teaching as the final answer. And, if you do not know how to answer the objection at a particular moment, don't be afraid to say that you will have to study the matter further and get back with them about it.

### **When you should baptize**

Now, the final question I want to consider in this lesson that (I hope) has prepared you to baptize people so that they can be disciples of Christ is: How do I know when someone is ready to be baptized? To answer this question, simply consider all that we have been discussing in the plan of salvation.

Here are the "prerequisites" to Bible baptism. First, an individual must have committed sin. Second, an individual must be able to hear God's word and have it taught to him/her. Third, an individual must believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Fourth, an individual must repent of his/her sin. Fifth, an individual must confess Jesus Christ as Lord. Sixth, an individual must accept the Bible's teachings about baptism. Seventh, an individual must be committed to living for Christ in the future. If all these things are in place, then that person should be baptized into Christ immediately!

## ***Conclusion***

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Baptism is an essential step in the disciple-making process. So, you should exercise patience in teaching and do everything you can to help someone be obedient to the gospel's plan of salvation and be baptized into Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. Although few will make this commitment to Christ, there is no greater feeling than knowing that you have played a small (but important) role in helping someone be forgiven of his/her sins! Therefore, stay committed to the work of planting and watering the seed, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)!

## ***Study Questions***

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How can you (potentially) increase the number of people you will help be baptized?

### **1. Teaching The Plan Of Salvation**

How should you teach people the need for salvation?

How should you teach people God's part in salvation?

How should you teach people man's part in salvation?

Discuss each of the following steps:

1. Hear –

2. Believe –

3. Repent –

4. Confess Christ –

5. Be baptized –

6. Remain faithful –

## **2. Asking For A Decision**

Why is patience important in asking for a decision?

How should you help people draw the necessary conclusions?

What are some possible responses to the gospel?

How can you help people overcome objections? Give some sample objections you should prepare for.

When should you baptize someone?