Come let us Grow Together is a weekly series that deals with the many topical categories that exist within the Word of God. The purpose of this series is to grow in wisdom, knowledge, and understanding in things pertaining to God.

A crucial subject that many people do not understand is the importance of water baptism and what takes place as a result of it. Many people view water baptism as an option that you can do if you want to, but it's alright if you don't. There are also questions about how to baptize people and at what age you can baptize them.

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. (Mk 16:16)

Many people claim that what you are about to read is how you obtain salvation.

But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, **the word of faith**, which we preach; That if thou shalt **confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus**, and **shalt believe in thine heart** that God hath raised him from the dead, **thou shalt be saved**. (**Rom 10:7-8**)

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Rom 10:13)

What happened to the rest of what was taught?????

Go ye therefore, and <u>teach all nations</u>, **baptizing them in the name of** the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: (**Mt 28:19**)

Then <u>opened he their understanding</u>, that they might <u>understand the scriptures</u>. And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to **rise from the dead the third day:** And that <u>repentance and remission of sins should be preached</u> in his name <u>among all nations</u>, <u>beginning at Jerusalem</u>. (Lk 24:45-47)

Jesus opened their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, and told them what to speak. He told them to preach repentance and remission of sins in His name. And they did!!!

Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins,** and <u>ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.</u> (Acts 2:38)

Notice that baptism was not optional but was part of how they were to receive remission of their sins. Also notice that all throughout the book of Acts, which was the birth of the New Testament Church, you will see that the people who believed in the preaching of Jesus Christ repented of their sins and were baptized in the name of the Lord.

(For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only **they were baptized** in the name of the Lord Jesus.) (Acts 8:16)

And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. (Acts 8:37-38)

And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. (Acts 9:18)

Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy <u>Ghost as well as we?</u> And <u>he commanded them</u> to be baptized <u>in the name of the Lord.</u> Then prayed they him to tarry certain days. (Acts 10:47-48)

When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. (Acts 19:5-6)

AND NOW WHY TARRIEST THOU? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. (Acts 22:12-16)