



# FULLY DEVOTED

A NEW LIFE STARTS TODAY

**FULLY DEVOTED: "I Was Something, Now I'm Something New" Pastors Lucas Ashley**  
**Sunday, January 18, 2026**

## Introduction

This week we talked about **baptism**—what it is, why it matters, and why it's such an important step for followers of Jesus. In Acts 2, we see that when people believed the Gospel, they didn't wait years to respond—they **believed and were baptized** as a public and obedient step of devotion to God. Baptism doesn't save us, but it **shows** something has already happened inside of us. It is an **outward expression of an inward transformation**—a way of saying, "My life belongs to Jesus now."

## Discussion Questions

## **Section 1: Baptism Is an Act of Devotion**

**Read:** Matthew 3:13–15 and Matthew 28:19–20

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Why do you think it mattered that **Jesus Himself** was baptized, even though He was sinless?
2. The sermon said: "*When we love someone, we choose actions that demonstrate that.*" How does baptism fit that idea?
3. Jesus commands His followers to be baptized. Why do you think obedience is such a big part of faith?

4. What are some reasons people today might **delay** or **avoid** obedience, even when they believe?

## **Section 2: Baptism Is a Physical Demonstration**

**Read:** Colossians 2:12–15

**Discussion Questions:**

1. According to this passage, what does baptism symbolize about our old life and new life?
2. Why do you think God uses physical, visible actions to communicate spiritual truths?
3. How does remembering what baptism represents help us when we struggle or feel like we've failed?

## **Section 3: Baptism Is a Public Declaration**

**Read:** Matthew 10:32 and Galatians 3:26–28

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Why do you think Jesus cares about us acknowledging Him **before others**?
2. The sermon said baptism is basically saying:  
"I was something else — now I'm something new."  
What part of that statement stands out most to you?
3. How does baptism unite believers even though we come from very different backgrounds?

## **Personal Reflection**

- Have you been baptized since placing your faith in Jesus? If not, what has held you back?
- If you have been baptized, what did that moment mean to you—and how does it still speak into your life today?

## **Memory Verse**

“For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.”

Colossians 2:12 (NLT)