

**Fulwood Free Methodist Church**

**Message Series: Set Free**

**Unpacking what it means to be “born again”**



**Week Four**

**Baptism in Water**

**Sunday Morning 3rd February 2019**

## Questions for Personal and Home Group Study

These questions are based around the content of today's talks at our morning services and it will also be useful to listen to the podcast and consider the key Bible verses.

### Key Bible verses:

**Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 2:37-38, Acts 16:22-34,  
Galatians 3:26-27**

- 1) Mark starts his gospel with John the Baptist. (Mark 1:1-11)
  - What was God's purpose in having John up and running before Jesus?
  - Why was Jesus insistent on being baptised by John?
  - What happened immediately as Jesus started to come out of the river?
  
- 2) Why was John's baptism different from that of Jesus and his subsequent followers? (See Acts 19:1-5)
  
- 3) Read Matthew 28:19-20.
  - What specific instructions did Jesus give just before he departed to heaven?
  - A casual reading of this passage would lead you to the conclusion that this is a very short final message from Jesus. Why did it not need to be any longer?

- 4) After he has preached at Pentecost, Peter is asked by the crowd how they are to respond. (See Acts 2:37-38)
  - What instructions does he give?
  
- 5) Baptism means going public as a disciple of Christ – there is no turning back. Spiritually, it is a watershed moment and identifies us with the death and resurrection of Jesus. (See Acts 22:16)
  - Why is it often a real battle just to get into the water for your baptism?
  - From your own experience, what difference did your baptism make to the way others treated you?
  - Did it make a spiritual difference to you that you are aware of?
  
- 6) Why do we (FFMC) dedicate infants and baptise those who have made their own decision to be a disciple of Jesus?
  
- 7) After Paul's encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus Ananias is sent by the Holy Spirit to meet Paul.
  - What happens during the visit and why was it important that Paul was baptised? (See Galatians 3:26-27)

## **Set Free:**

In this series we are looking at what it means to say someone is born again and set free.

It all starts with the Spirit of God seeking the lost and revealing to us that we need a Saviour and His name is Jesus. As we accept Jesus as our Saviour the Spirit convicts us of the need for repentance before our Father. As a sign and seal of what has taken place we are baptised and finally the Spirit who started the whole birthing process seals us with his indwelling presence and gives us gifts. In new testament times this process often took less than 24 hours and the new believers were radically different from their former selves. In the contemporary UK church scene this process can take years and leads to many problems and often ineffective disciples. The aim of the course is to put our understanding of what being "born again" is all about back on track with Scripture and help us be disciples who make disciples.

13th Jan – New Beginnings

20th Jan – Believing in Jesus

27th Jan – Repentance towards a Holy God

**3rd Feb – Baptism in Water**

10th Feb – Sealed by the Spirit

17th Feb – Becoming a disciple