

THE RELENTLESS PURSUIT

AN ALL TO HIM SERMON SERIES

ICEBREAKER

Do you feel comfortable sharing the gospel?
Why or why not?

CONTEXT

Today we continue our deep dive into Matthew 28:18-20 we will hone in on baptism. What it is, what it represents, and why it is an important step of faith.

BLESS

Remember to leave space to discuss the first step of BLESS on page 2

PASSAGE

Matthew 28:18-20

DISCUSS

- Why is baptism considered an act of obedience and how does it differ from salvation?
- How does Romans 6:3-4 connect baptism to the concept of deliverance?
- In what areas of your life do you need Jesus' deliverance, and how can you apply this concept of deliverance to your own walk with God?
- What role does repentance play in the act of baptism?
- What are some personal areas where you need to experience repentance and how can you implement change in those areas?
- How does baptism function as an initiation rite into the church and what responsibilities come with it?

How will you apply this to your life?

- What responsibilities do you think you have as a member of the church and how can you actively participate in fulfilling those duties?
- In what ways can you demonstrate obedience to God in your daily life in addition to baptism?
- What are some practical ways you can show your allegiance and loyalty to God in your daily life?

How will you pass it on to someone?

- If someone asked you to explain why Matthew 28:18-20 is in the Bible, what would you tell them? Why?
- How will you incorporate what you've learned into your interactions with others?

TAKE TIME TO PRAY

- Ask God for the grace to obey His commands, especially concerning baptism. Pray for a heart that is willing to obey and express devotion to Jesus.
- Pray for a spirit of true repentance and ask God for the strength to change direction and live a life of faithfulness to Him.
- Ask for God's guidance in accepting responsibility as a member of His family and being an active member within the church community.

The B.L.E.S.S. Practices

Begin with Prayer → Listen → Eat → Serve → Story



As believers, we are all called to share the gospel! In Matthew 28:19-20 we are told to go into the world and make disciples, baptizing and teaching them. We hear Pastor James talk about sharing the gospel, but sometimes, it is difficult to know where to start. If you struggle with this, the BLESS practice will be very helpful! Each week, we will unpack a piece of the BLESS acronym.

This week, we are talking about BEGIN WITH PRAYER.

We may know we are supposed to begin every area of life with prayer. But, in the busyness of life, sometimes praying can be pushed to the side. The reminder that sharing the gospel is a work of prayer is incredibly important. Beginning with prayer is to prompt us to ask God who and how He wants us to go about sharing His love with the people around us!

In the book BLESS: 5 Everyday Ways to Love Your Neighbor and Change the World, Dave Ferguson says this about beginning with prayer.

“Prayer is both how you discover your mission and how you live out the mission. Over and over again, we see Jesus retreating to pray. If you’re not sure who God is calling you to bless or where God is calling you to go to be a blessing, you can begin with prayer. And if you know the people you want to bless, begin praying for those people now.”

This week, begin praying about who God would like you to BLESS. This could be a neighbor, coworker, family member, or friend. If you already know who that person is, begin praying for them. Pray over every area of their lives.

If you know who this person is already, share their first name with the group so they can ask you in the weeks to come how your BLESSing is going!

Spend this week practicing the act of praying daily for your BLESS person!