



THE MESSENGER

OCTOBER 17, 2021

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting
TBD

Weekly Bible Studies
Tuesdays on Zoom

Times of Service
Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM
Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM
(Immediately followed by a
short worship service)

First Friday of Month
Singing

September 3, 7:30

Address and Contact

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Christ
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KY 40508
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Q AND R ON BAPTISM (3)

Question: “Do the passages that speak of entire families being baptized imply that young children and babies were baptized, too?”

Response: Two such examples are found back-to-back in Acts 16. A woman named Lydia believed the gospel as Paul preached. Verse 15 says, “*And after she was baptized, and her household as well...*”. A few verses later, after explaining the situation with the Philippian jailor, verse 33 says, “*And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family.*” Lydia’s household and all the Philippian jailor’s family were baptized. Some conclude from these accounts that very young children and babies were included. I disagree for a number of reasons, three of which we will discuss in the remainder of this article.

Let’s begin by considering the context of each conversion. The Lord opened the heart of Lydia to pay attention to what Paul taught. The result of his teaching was belief in the message and baptism into Christ. (14-15) The jailor was told to believe in the Lord Jesus, along with his household, and they would be saved. Upon hearing the message and believing it, they were baptized. (30-33) Both cases show the necessity of a reasoned response to the proclamation of the gospel and a determined commitment to the Lord it proclaims. Very young children and babies are

Members Needing Our Prayers

Rick Small, Chris Stewart, Ralph Fox, Benny Poynter, Janet Brundige, Joyce Bolton and family, Karen Spivey, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

Others Needing Prayers

Randy Cates, Larry McTeer, Charlene Michael, Ann Little, Mary Jean Snyder, Mark Nickles, Dale Lyons, Adam Fusco, Rachel and Sarah White, Duane Harrod, Grace Meyer, Meredith Nicholson, Alice and Lonnie Anderson, Glen Perkins, Ethan Shelton, Terry Daniels, Harvey Baker, Leroy Weatherholt, Robert Brundige, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Debbie Lanphear, Veronica Bowman

To Our Guests

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incapable of this. Indeed, in these early stages of life they are *alive apart from the law*. (Romans 7:9)

Secondly, why assume a household has young children and babies? Some here at University Heights do while even more do not. Not only is the presence of young children and babies assumed in the households of Lydia and the jailor, they are assumed for no legitimate reason. Supporting a cherished practice certainly isn't reason enough.

Finally, some advocates of infant baptism (sprinkling) speak of it in terms of initiation into the parent's faith or declaring in some way the parent's future intent for their child. Such practices were invented by uninspired men a very long time ago and possess no Bible authority at all. As we stated in the first point, baptism is the result of hearing and believing the message of Jesus Christ. It results from a heart of repentance, humility, and deep gratitude. Human traditions, no matter how ancient and treasured, do not change the truth of Scripture. Adam Litmer

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
John Thompson	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

