



# THE MESSENGER

## OCTOBER 24, 2021

### NEWS AND NOTES

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**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**

University Heights Church of  
Christ  
445 Columbia Ave., Lexington,  
KY 40508  
(859) 255-6257  
[www.uheightschurch.com](http://www.uheightschurch.com)

### Q AND R ON BAPTISM (3)

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**Question:** “Does someone need to be rebaptized if they didn’t grasp that baptism is for the forgiveness of sins?”

**Response:** This is a very common question among members of the church. For many among us the answer seems obvious and is a resounding “Yes!” My prayer is that this response will be true to Scripture and offer some food for thought.

Let’s begin with a series of questions. Does one need to be rebaptized if they didn’t grasp that baptism is for receiving of the gift of the Holy Spirit? (Acts 2:38) What if they didn’t grasp that baptism is an appeal to God for a good conscience? (1 Peter 3:21) What if they failed to grasp that baptism is a circumcision made without hands in which the body of flesh is put off through the powerful working of God? (Colossians 2:11-12) What if they failed to recognize that baptism is symbolically joining Christ in his own death, burial, and resurrection? (Romans 6:1-4) What if they failed to grasp that baptism is for putting on Christ? (Galatians 3:27)

The point I am making is this: where does the Lord or any of his inspired writers indicate that the forgiveness of sins aspect of baptism is to be emphasized above all others? Baptism is for all of the above blessings along with others not mentioned. There is no divine authority for elevating one above another. If any of us have been in the habit of doing so, we need to stop.

In addition, just as with everything discussed in Scripture, there must be room allowed for growth and development in ones understanding. In my own experience, I did not begin truly considering the concept of “the gift of the Holy Spirit” until years after my baptism. I believe that I am still gaining understanding

## **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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on the significance of baptism as I continue to study and think carefully about it. If one must have full understanding before being baptized than show me the person who will ever be in a position to be baptized!

The one case of rebaptism found in Acts is located at 19:1-6. I encourage you to take a moment to read it now. These men were rebaptized “in the name of the Lord Jesus” because that was not what had happened the first time.

My conviction on this question has changed over the years. I believe if a person is baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus in response to the gospel message the depth of their understanding in the moment is far less important than what God understood and was doing. Through continued study and teaching they will grow in their understanding of what their baptism meant and continues to mean. We can help them, and ourselves, when we strive to teach a complete biblical picture of baptism and are careful to avoid just a single aspect of it. I pray this response was helpful.

Adam Litmer

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

