

FATHER of the BRIDE

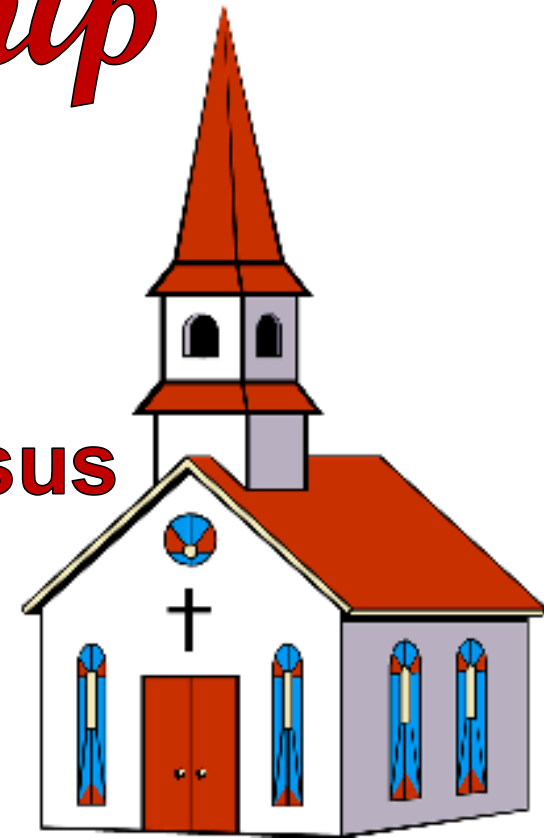


The Relationship

**For us to go from being
the Bride of Christ
to the Wife of God, its
all about the person of Jesus**



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Ephesians 5:25-30

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— for we are members of his body.



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How we got here!

The binding foundation of love



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The individuals committing to the relationship

The Bride --- The church

The Bridegroom --- Jesus



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We talked about setting aside my expectations of what I get out of the relationship and put in the thought of what am I willing to put into the relationship for the benefit of my spouse



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What is cost to have the relationship



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What is cost to have the relationship

Discussed the gift and explored the reality its not enough to receive it but to use it



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Warning!

**Don't let this sermon distract
you (because it can)....
Its all about the relationship**



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The Relationship

If you are interested in the relationship then this sermon is vital to get you where you desire to be



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Wedding

- 1. A marriage ceremony usually with its accompanying festivities**
- 2. An act, process, or instance of joining in close association**



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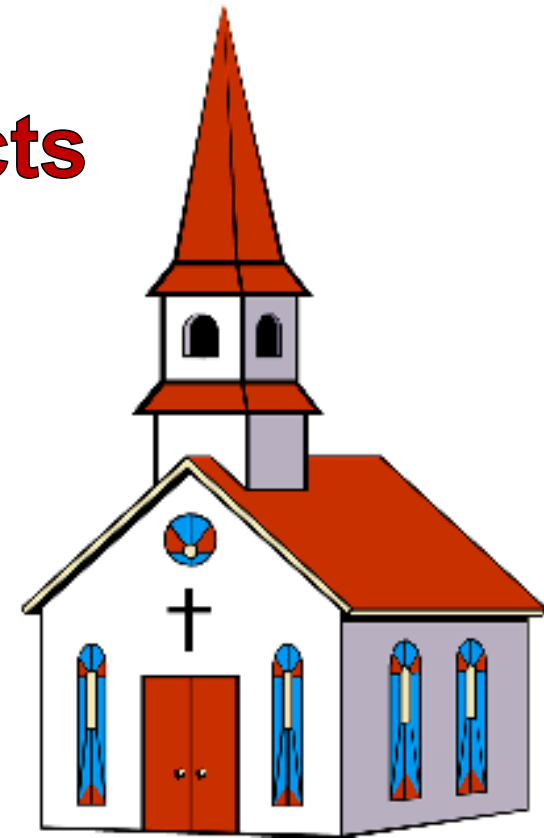


Ceremony

**a formal act or series of acts
prescribed by ritual,
protocol, or convention**



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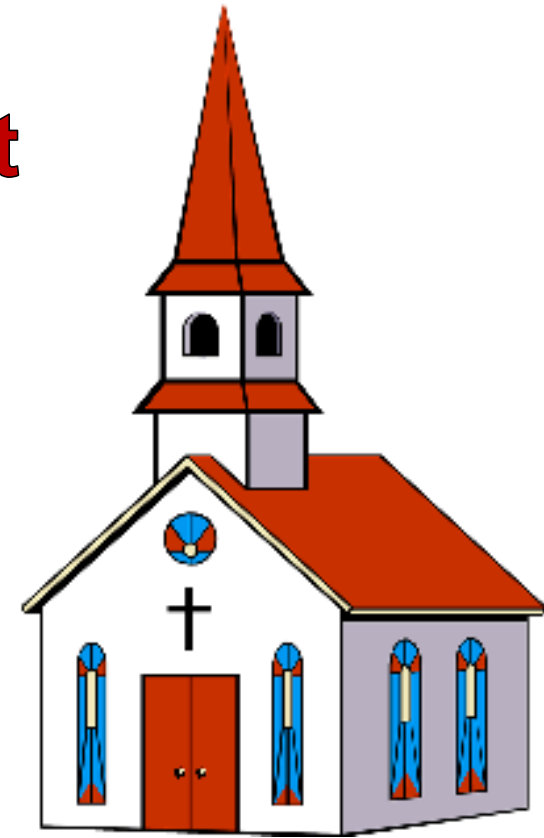


Ceremony

**Its a point and time event
(Instance)**



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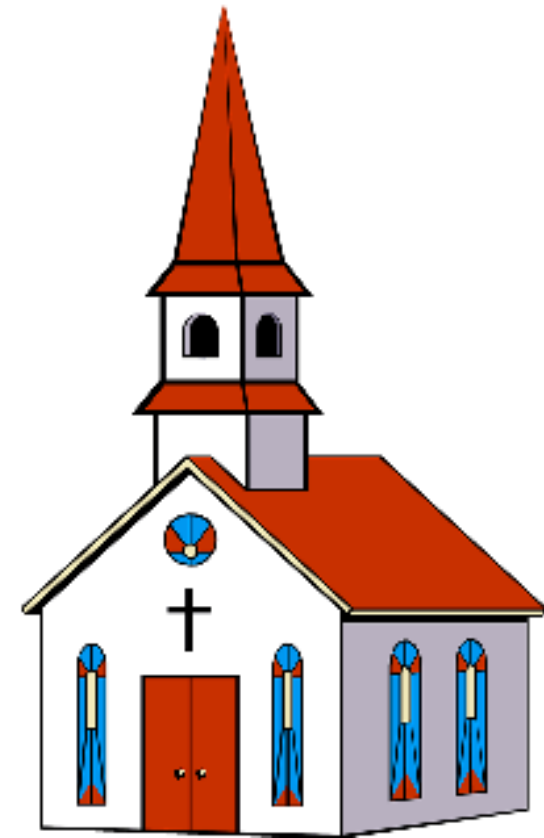


Ceremony

**It has things that you do
(actions)**



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Questions

Can you have a “wedding” and not have a marriage?

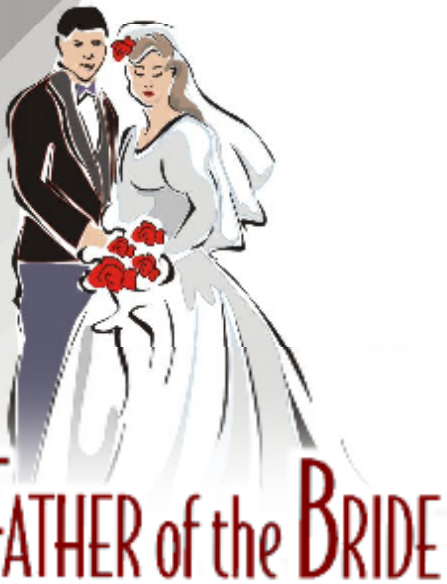


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Questions

Can you have a “wedding” and not have a marriage?

Can you be “married” and not have a wedding?



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Can you have a “wedding” and not have a marriage?

Can you be “married” and not have a wedding?

Are there “required” elements to the ceremony?



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Are you saying you can't be “saved” without the ceremony?



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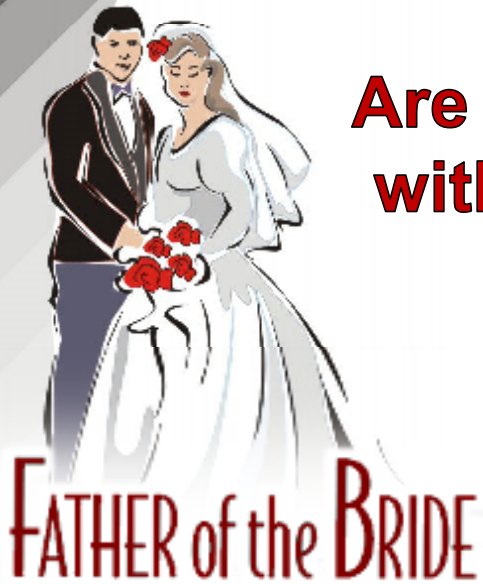
Can you be “married” and not have a wedding?

Are there “required” elements to the ceremony?

Are you saying you can't be “saved” without the ceremony?

Can't I just do a “private” ceremony?

Note: as we look at the components of the Spiritual “ceremony” you should know



Know This!

**They bleed: In that I mean
verses that we look at may
mention multiple components**



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Know This!

**Like a wedding the components
are connected and paint a
picture of the relationship
you are committing to**



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Know This!

The fact we see them connecting together should give support to the fact they are demonstratable acts of faith not “steps” in some magical incantation



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*God's
Wedding
Ceremony*



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Believe (The License)

**Whoever believes and is baptized
will be saved, but whoever does not
believe will be condemned.**

Mark 16:16



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Believe (The License)

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Mark 16:16



By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:2

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*What Do
I Need to
Believe?*



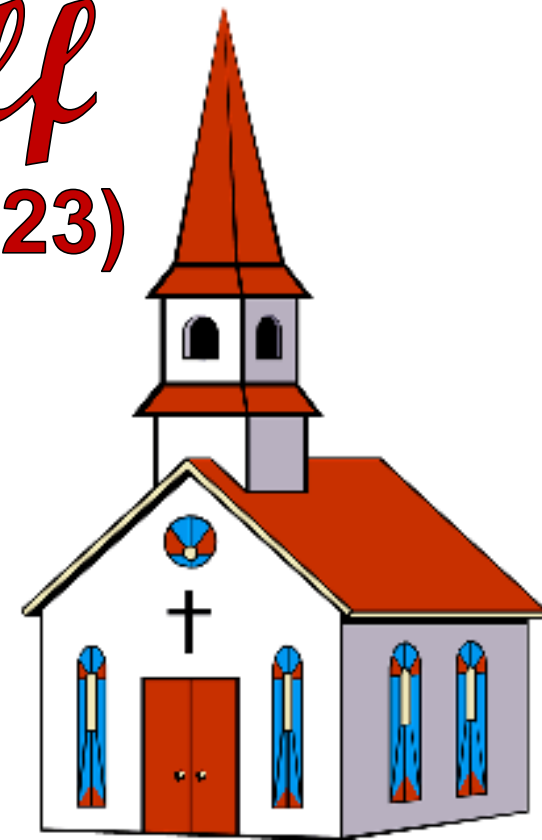
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About Yourself

1. I am a sinner (Romans 3:23)
2. I need a savior and that savior is Jesus (Romans 6:23)



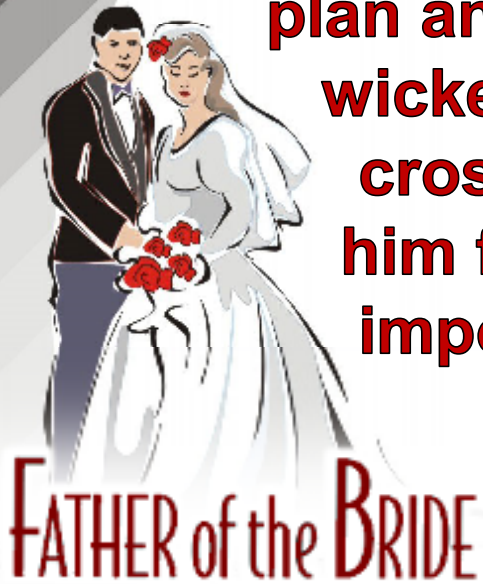
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About Jesus

“Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.”

Acts 2:22-24



About Jesus

1. He Came
2. He Lived (sinless life)
3. He Died
4. He Rose



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About Belief

**Its an inward thing that will
produce outward actions
(Romans 10:9)**



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Confess / Profess

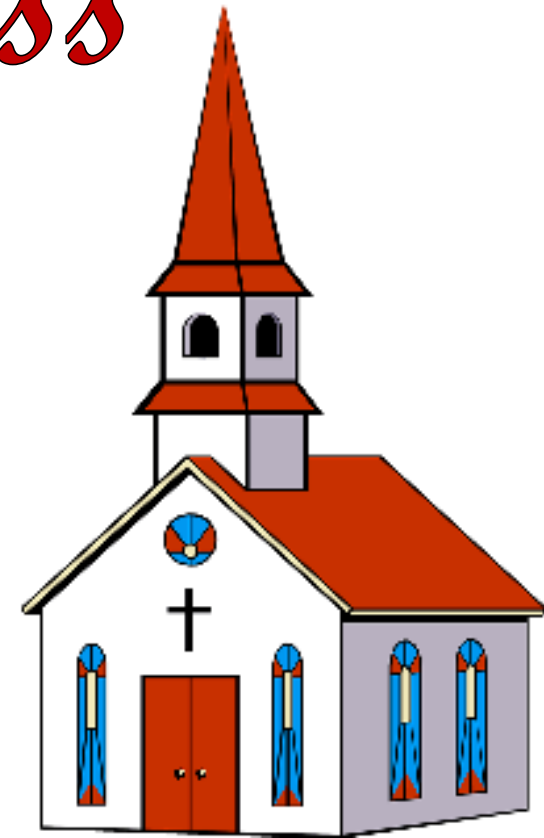
(Romans 10:13)

**“Everyone who calls on
the name of the Lord
will be saved.”**

(The I Will Statement)



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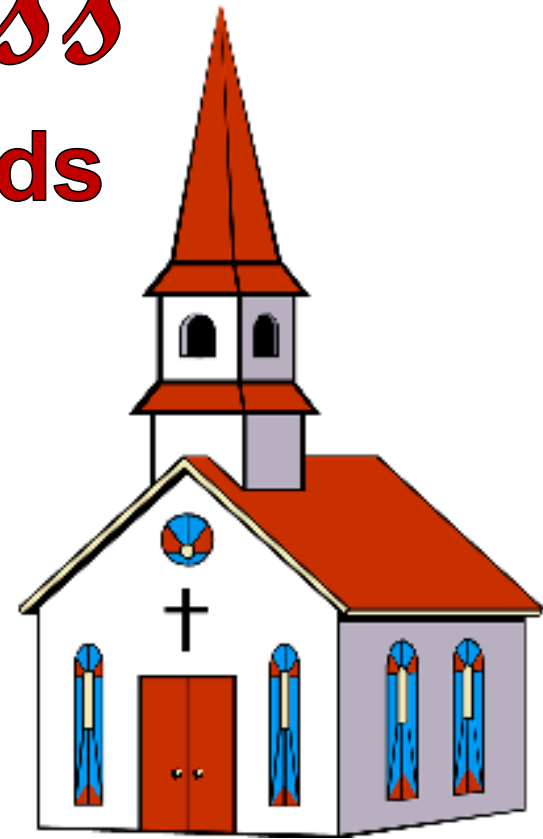


Confess / Profess

**And after your heart bends
in belief your mind
must express in
confession/profession
(Romans 10:10)**



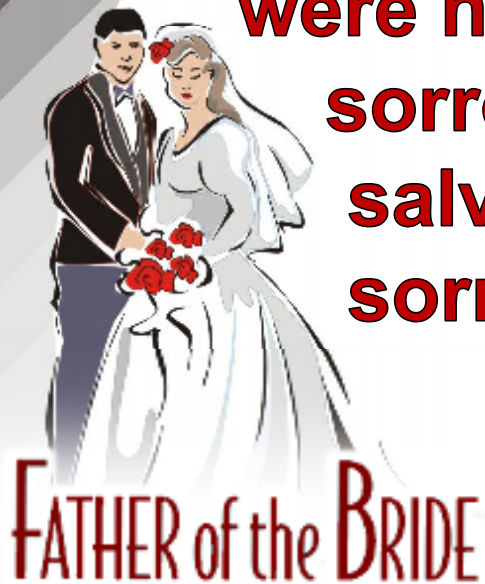
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Repent (the Vows)

Yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

2 Corinthians 7:9-10



Repent

**Each part of our humanity
has to bend
and repentance bends
our soul**



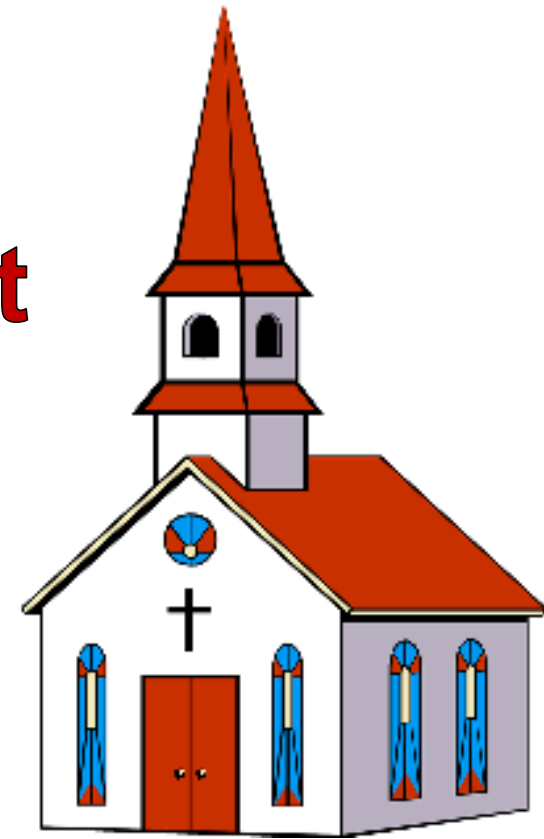
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Repent
It begins with
idea of sorrow -- guilt



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Changed Behavior

Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.



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2 Timothy 2:25-26

All Done?

Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.



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Acts 2:38



Baptism (The Rings)

And this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 3:21



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Am I Saved?

**If all I do is believe,
James says even the
demons do that
(James 2:19)**



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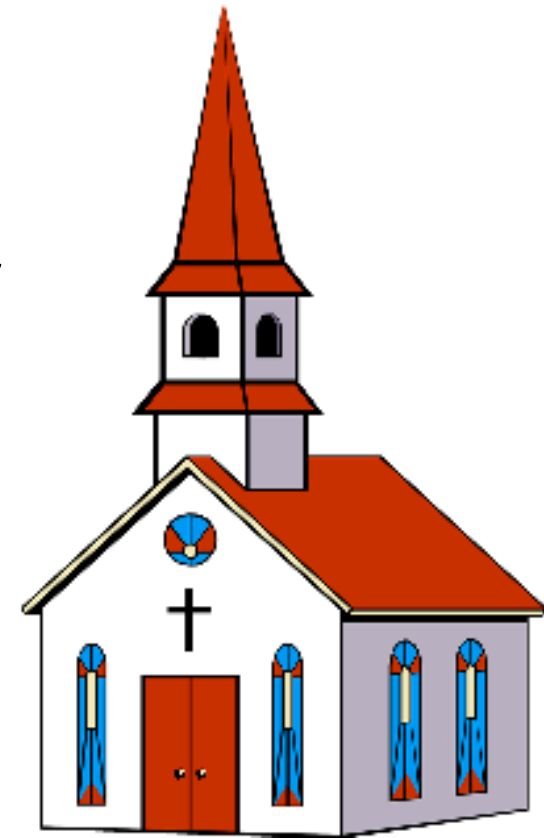


Am I Saved?

**If all I do is
confess/profess
Jesus says many will try
that route and none
will succeed unless
you know Him
(Matthew 7:21)**



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Am I Saved?

**Even the mighty act of repenting
by itself does not work as
it is not about what we
turn from but who we turn to
(Acts 3:19)**



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*It's not a
Symbolic Bath*



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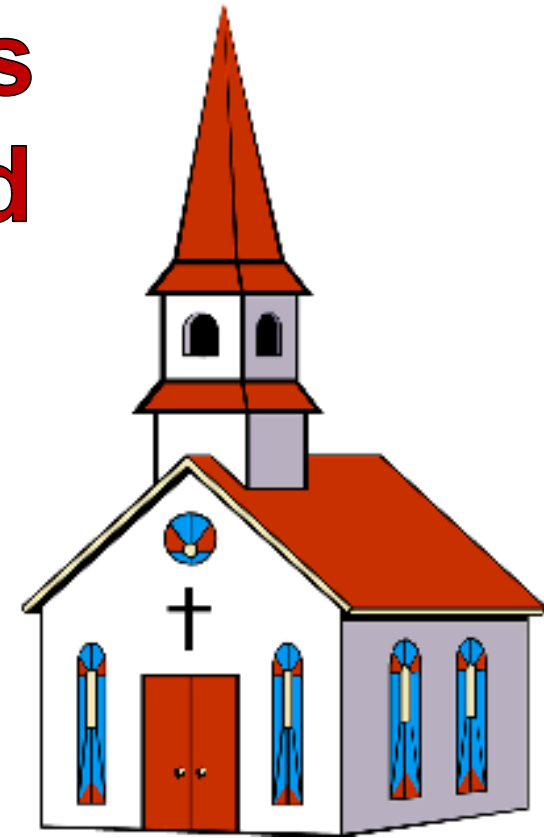


Baptism

**Its a pledge and thus
can not be dismissed
as an after thought,
a work or a trivial
option that I do if
I feel like it**



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Baptism

**is about the physical
connection it makes with
Jesus' sacrifice
(Romans 6:3-7)**



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**COMING
SOON**



smartfaith

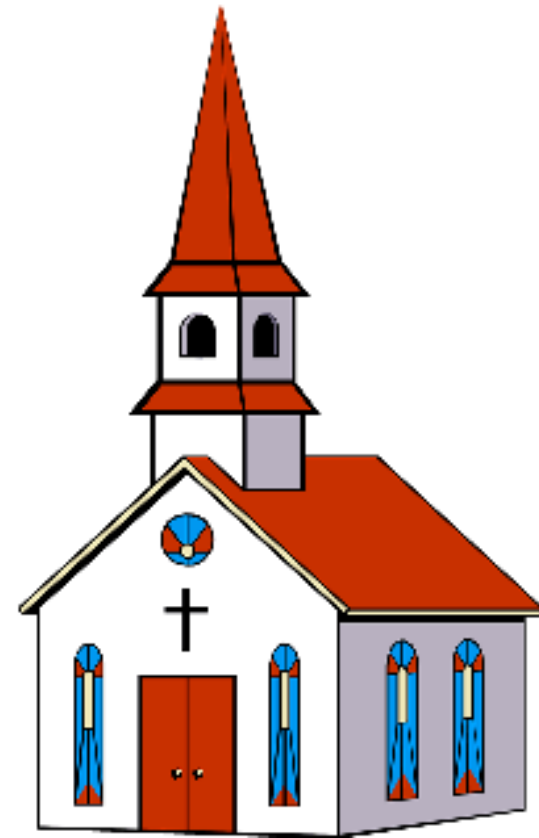
Portable, Practical, and Applicable

Baptism

**It's physical as
it involves your
entire body**



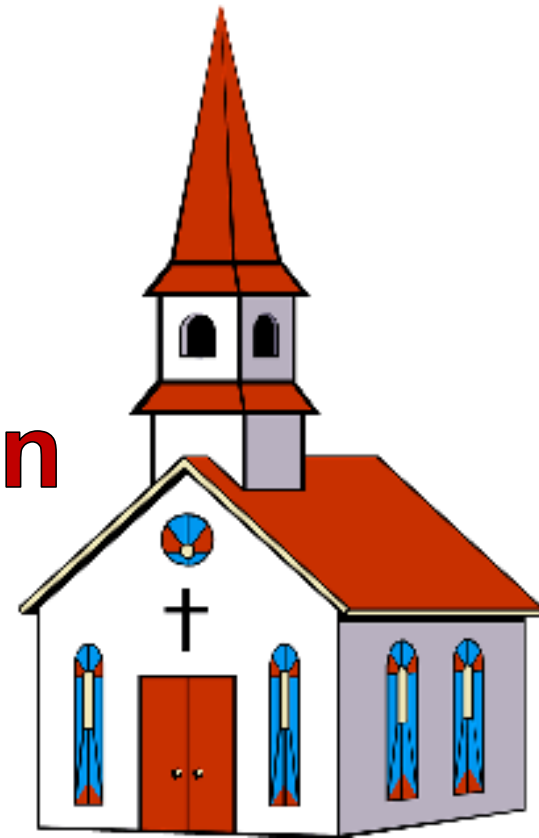
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Baptism
Directly reenacts
the death
burial and resurrection



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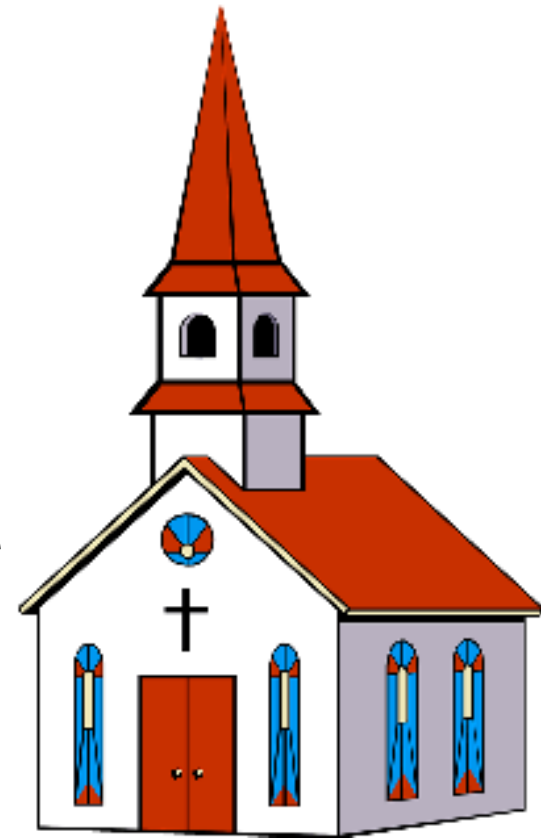


Baptism

**is an equal essential
part of the ceremony
designed by God
to show commitment
to the marriage**



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Salvation

**Know its the faith
marriage to Jesus that is
what salvation
is all about
(Titus 3:3-8)**



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The Next Step is Yours!