



Small Group/ Reflection Notes

	21-07-2024		iBelong through baptism
Start	 Somethings naturally go together. It doesn't feel right when one is missing. Have a go: Batman and [Robin] Bread and [butter] Burger and [fries] Lock and [key] Tennis racket and [tennis ball] Punch and [arrest] What other examples can you think of? Today, we're thinking of another: Repent and [be baptised] 		□ Bread and… [butter] □ Lock and… [key]] □ Punch and… [arrest] ?
Discuss	□ If you've been baptised, tell us about it! When? Where? Who? Why?		
Read	Matthew 3:13-17 Romans 6:1-4	Justen again	ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch
P Explore	 Matthew 3:13: Why was being baptised in the <i>River Jordan</i> so symbolic? What had Moses led the Hebrews <i>out of</i>? [old life, oppression] What did crossing/ entering the River Jordan lead them <i>into</i>? [new life, freedom]. How is this like baptism? Matthew 3:14-15: If Christ was without sin, why was He baptised? What does this tell us about baptism? Matthew 3:16: What did/ does baptism involve? What's more important, the volume of water or the heart intention? What happened when Jesus was baptised? What's the significance of 'heaven opened'? For those not yet baptised, what might you <i>anticipate</i> feeling? For those already baptised, what <i>did</i> you experience? Before? During? After? Matthew 3:17: What did <i>God, the Father</i> say to <i>God, the Son</i>? If 'in Christ' we are 'children of God', then what God, the Father says to Christ, He says also to us. What does it mean to hear God say to <u>you</u>, "This is my child, whom I love. With you I am well pleased"? Romans 6:1-2: What does it mean to 'die to sin'? Why does Paul use the past tense? Rom.6:3: How are we/ were we baptised into Christ's death? Read Mark 10:38: what cup was Christ going to drink? See also Mark 14:34-36. Rom.6:4: Even if nothing was said, how is baptism like a re-enactment of Christ's death, burial and resurrection? What senses are stimulated through baptism? How does the reminder of our baptism help us live today? If baptism is all about what Christ has done and our decision to say 'yes' to Christ, why do we worry if we're ready! good enough? If it's on a sentimental date? 		

	Why does the Bible say, repent (change your thinking about Christ) <u>AND</u> BE BAPTISED? Why do they naturally go together? What if there's one but not the other?	
Go further	 Should every Christian get baptised? What unnecessary barriers do we add in to baptism? e.g. wear special clothes, give a testimony (short speech) about why you want to be baptised 	
Reflect	 Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why? <i>"This is my child / whom I love. / With you I am well pleased"</i>? 	
Do Do	 Take a look at ChesterRoadBapist.org.uk/Baptism Be baptised! 	
Pray	Pray for one another.	
? My questions:		

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: <u>ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups</u> Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! <u>SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk</u>.