

A Note From Our Pastor

You are about to embark on a study of one of the most meaningful and important aspects of the Christian life: baptism. For more than two thousand years, followers of Jesus Christ have willingly and faithfully participated in two ordinances that celebrate what God has done for us: communion and baptism. Both of these ordinances remind us of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ ([1 Corinthians 11:23-26](#); [15:3-4](#); [Romans 6:3-5](#)). Communion is celebrated on an ongoing basis and baptism is a one-time personal faith response of devotion to God.

This resource is designed to offer clear and straightforward answers about the most commonly asked questions people have about Christian baptism. In putting this guide together, the foundational question we have asked along the way is, “*What does the Bible say about baptism?*” Therefore, many of the scriptures about baptism are printed for you to read. Other scriptures are simply referenced by book, chapter, and verse. To receive the most from your study, we encourage you to read each passage cited.

One question you may have up front is this, “***When I’m ready for baptism, what is my next step?***” Our process for guiding a person to the moment of their baptism has been designed to be both simple and meaningful. Please go to the Baptism page on our website (JourneyRVA.com/baptism) to engage in that process and to schedule your baptism.

In [Psalm 119:18](#), King David prayed, “*Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your Law.*” At the beginning of a biblical study on baptism, prayer is certainly appropriate! As you begin your study, we invite you to bow in prayer and pray something along these lines:

God, I humbly ask that You would open my mind and my heart to what Your Word teaches about baptism. As I study, may You direct my thoughts and give me insight into the scriptures I will be reading. May my heart be receptive and responsive to the leading of Your Holy Spirit. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.

May God bless you on your journey!

James Brummett
Senior Pastor