



# APPNOTES

**Date:** October 15-19, 2018

**Series:** Baptism

**John 15:18-20** Has there ever been a time in your life when you made the right choice but were ridiculed or judged for making that choice? The choice could have been a big choice or even a small one; but, with so much evil in the world, good is often going to shine through. People are always trying to pressure others into making decisions they don't want to make. Jesus warns of the persecution that would come to His followers when they decided to live their life in His way. John 15:18-20 warns the disciples of the hate that will come their way since they are followers of Christ. As Christians today, we still sometimes face this in our day-to-day lives. Today, remember that you are not bound to this earth, but rather the Lord has chosen you to spend the rest of eternity with Him.

**Romans 6:1-7** We signify new beginnings with ceremonies such as graduations and weddings. These events are public displays of a person's dedication to their studies or to another person. Baptism is a display of a person's commitment to God. When someone is baptized, he or she is displaying what happens at salvation when they begin a new life with Christ. In Romans 6:4 it states, "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Jesus died and rose again, and baptism is a symbol that we, too, have died to sin. It's a symbol of our new beginning.

**Acts 2:37-47** Have you been baptized? Are you thinking about baptism? It is a wonderful step in your walk with Christ. Getting baptized is not the finish line though. It's the public declaration of life with God by your side. In Acts 2:38 Peter states, "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." Your heart will be filled with joy and peace at the moment you repent and receive God's gift of salvation. Take a moment today to think about your salvation experience. Have you been baptized and gone public with your faith in Christ? If not, what's holding you back?

**Luke 22:54-61** Have you ever heard of a martyr? A martyr is someone who is killed because of their faith, or failure to renounce their beliefs. This is the extreme end of the difficulties Christians can face in the world today. A scenario we may face is the discomfort of

discussing religion in class or at a gathering of friends. In these moments, do you tell others that you're a follower of Christ? Peter's faith got tested. He denied that he knew Jesus. Think about the last time you faced the, "Are you a Christian?" question. How did you respond? Did you proclaim that you are a follower, or did you brush it off and deny it to avoid the unpopular opinion? Next time you're in this situation, think about all that God has promised you and tell whoever it is that you are a follower of Christ.

**1 Peter 4:12-19** Have you ever been called out for doing something differently? Maybe you hold your pen differently or say crayon differently than your neighbor. People have no problem calling you out on it. Living a life for Christ will stand out, and Peter warns us that we will be persecuted for being followers of Christ. He calls us to rejoice in the suffering; if people are persecuting us for living a Godly life, then we're doing something right. Remember that the next time someone ridicules you or judges you for being a Christian. It is said best in 1 Peter 4:16-17, "If you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God?"

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