

Baptized Into Christ



Creede Criswell



Happy



FATHER'S



Day





WHY CHRISTIANS BELIEVE

Great Oaks Church of Christ

June 27-30, 2021

7pm Sunday-Wednesday

The Christian Invitation



Some passages where
Jesus taught that
many wouldn't come:



Luke 14:16-24

¹⁶ But He said to him, “A man was giving a big dinner, and he invited many;

¹⁷ and at the dinner hour he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for everything is ready now.’

¹⁸ But they all alike began to make excuses. ...

Matthew 13:3-9

³ And He spoke many things to them in parables, saying, “Behold, the sower went out to sow;

⁴ and as he sowed, some *seeds* fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate them up.

...

Matthew 7:13-14

¹³ “Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it.

¹⁴ For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Refusing Christ's Invitation



1) Mark 10:17-23

¹⁷ As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and asked Him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁸ And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone.

1) Mark 10:17-23

¹⁹ You know the commandments, ‘Do NOT MURDER, DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, Do not defraud, HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER.’”

²⁰ And he said to Him, “Teacher, I have kept all these things from my youth up.”

1) Mark 10:17-23

²¹ Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, “One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

²² But at these words he was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property.

1) Mark 10:17-23

²³ And Jesus, looking around, said to His disciples, “How hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God!”

➤ Some don't come because they would rather have sin or worldliness.



1 John 2:15-17

¹⁵ Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:15-17

¹⁶ For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

¹⁷ The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

2) Matthew 23:13

¹³ “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.

- Some don't come because they have seen hypocritical examples of faith.



3) Acts 7:54-58

⁵⁴ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the quick, and they *began* gnashing their teeth at him.

3) Acts 7:54-58

⁵⁵ But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;

⁵⁶ and he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

3) Acts 7:54-58

⁵⁷ But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and rushed at him with one impulse.

⁵⁸ When they had driven him out of the city, they *began* stoning *him*; and the witnesses laid aside their robes at the feet of a young man named Saul.

➤ Some don't come because they have been prejudiced or angered in life.



4) Acts 17:30-34

³⁰ Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent,

4) Acts 17:30-34

³¹ because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”

4) Acts 17:30-34

³² Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some *began* to sneer, but others said, “We shall hear you again concerning this.”

³³ So Paul went out of their midst.

4) Acts 17:30-34

³⁴ But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

➤ Some don't come because they have accepted a different view of the world.



5) Acts 24:24-25

²⁴ But some days later Felix arrived with Drusilla, his wife who was a Jewess, and sent for Paul and heard him *speak* about faith in Christ Jesus.

5) Acts 24:24-25

²⁵ But as he was discussing righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened and said, “Go away for the present, and when I find time I will summon you.”

➤ Some don't come because they think they will get to it later.



James 4:13-14

¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.”

¹⁴ Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

Refusing Christ's Invitation



Matthew 13:44-46

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid *again*; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Matthew 13:44-46

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls,

⁴⁶ and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

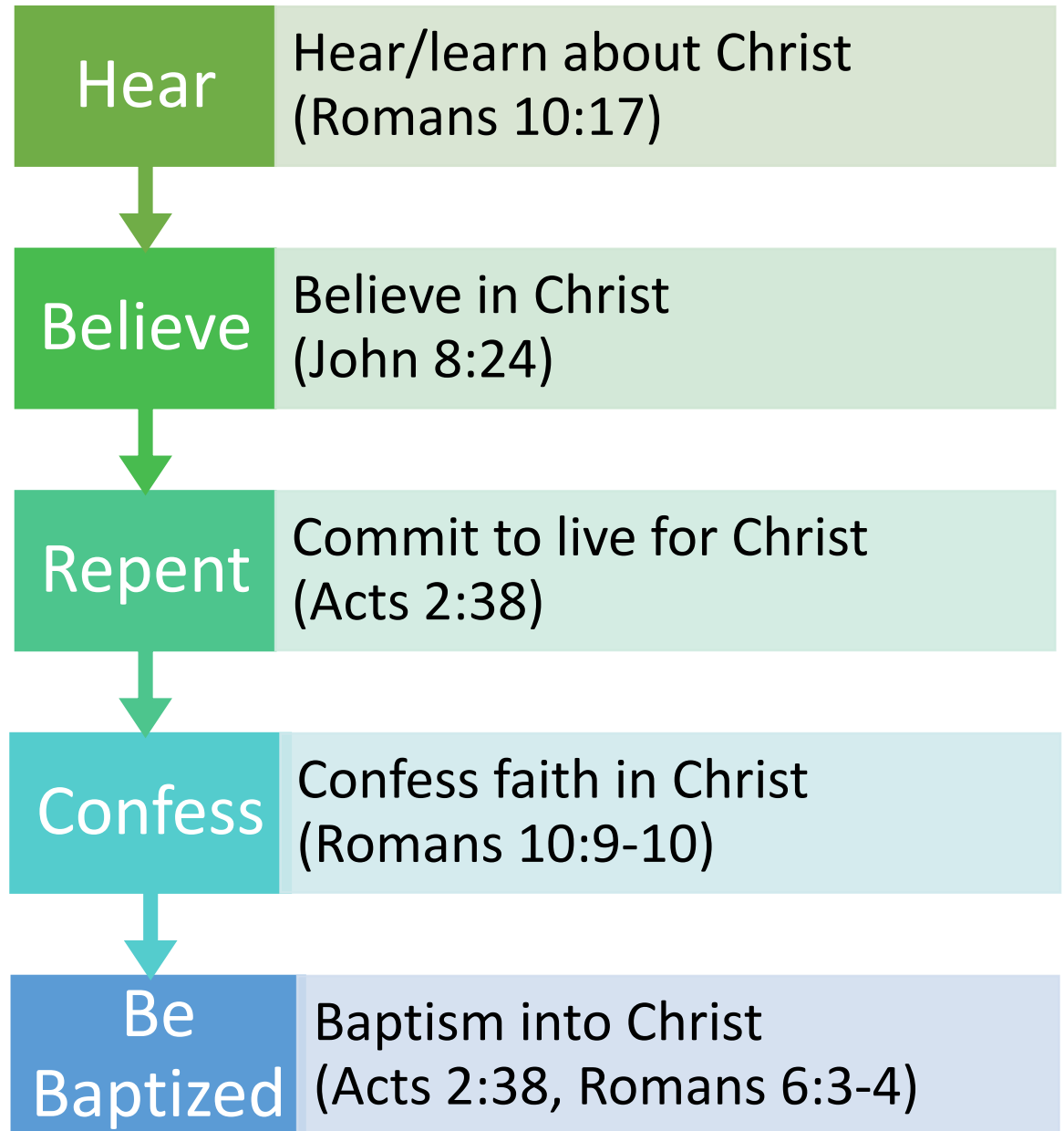


Let's show the world true
examples of Christ,



and let's pray that those around us
will see how important it is!

What Must I Do To Be Saved?



James 5:16

¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.