

TOTAL COMMITMENT – BAPTISM

Notes for the Instructor

Purpose of lesson 32: After lessons 26-31, in which the purpose was to reveal that God does have a church on earth that is identifiable--raised up at a specific time, to proclaim a specific message, guided by a specific messenger, we come in this lesson to the point where the student can intelligently make a decision in regards to his church home. The future faithfulness of your student to Christ, truth, and Christ's church certainly has greater guarantee. And he is better able to relate to future deceptive movements that will come. Post-baptismal nurture and fellowship are also critically important.

During the lesson itself: The Scriptures of this lesson are not as demanding of exposition as in some other lessons. Make them clear and inviting. In connection with question 2, it would be important to review the depth of meaning in the larger passage, Romans 6:1-11. See 6BC 536-540. It is a meaningful passage on the subject of this lesson.

Appeal: The appeal here is quite easily made if the student has already committed himself to Christ, to the commandments and Sabbath-keeping, and has attended church for some time. Use the technique expressed in this question: "Do you believe that the time has come when you should be baptized?" If he is not quite ready, he answers in terms of need for time, and is not forced to say "no" to baptism itself.

Illustration: The visual aid is an attempt to again clarify the pre-baptismal period, the significance of baptism, and the rewards of the baptized Christian.

