

1. Why does baptism remain a controversial issue in the church? Why do emotions run so high regarding this matter?
2. What are some of the differences between the baptism of John and the baptism of Jesus? (Matt 3 and Rom 6 can help you here... note how the Trinity endorses the baptism)
3. Ben noted that for the first 200 years of the church there's no indication that infants were ever baptized, and that until 1311 all baptisms (including infants) seem to have been conducted via water immersion (dunking). Should method of baptism and requirements for baptism matter? If so, why so? If not, why not? (be sure to consider symbolism)
4. Ben noted some of the prerequisites of Baptism according to scripture are 1) Knowledge of sin and repentance (Acts 2:38), 2) desire to become a disciple (faith/trust is implied here as well Matt 28:18-20), and 3) capacity to make a choice (1 Pet 3:20-21). Who is excluded by these prerequisites? How should these requirements impact our churches policy?
5. Ben set forth some excuses for not baptizing or being baptized. Recount some and add to them if you know any more reasons... formulate your best arguments against being baptized according to the NT model, then formulate good counter arguments (arguments in favor of being baptized)
6. How do we go about having fruitful discussion about what Christ desires here? What are our obstacles?