

WATER BAPTISM

The What & Why Behind a Traditional Ceremony
Tonight: Meaning - Purpose - Practice - FAQs

Scripture (NLT): Matthew 28:19-20

Aim + Roadmap

Goals tonight:

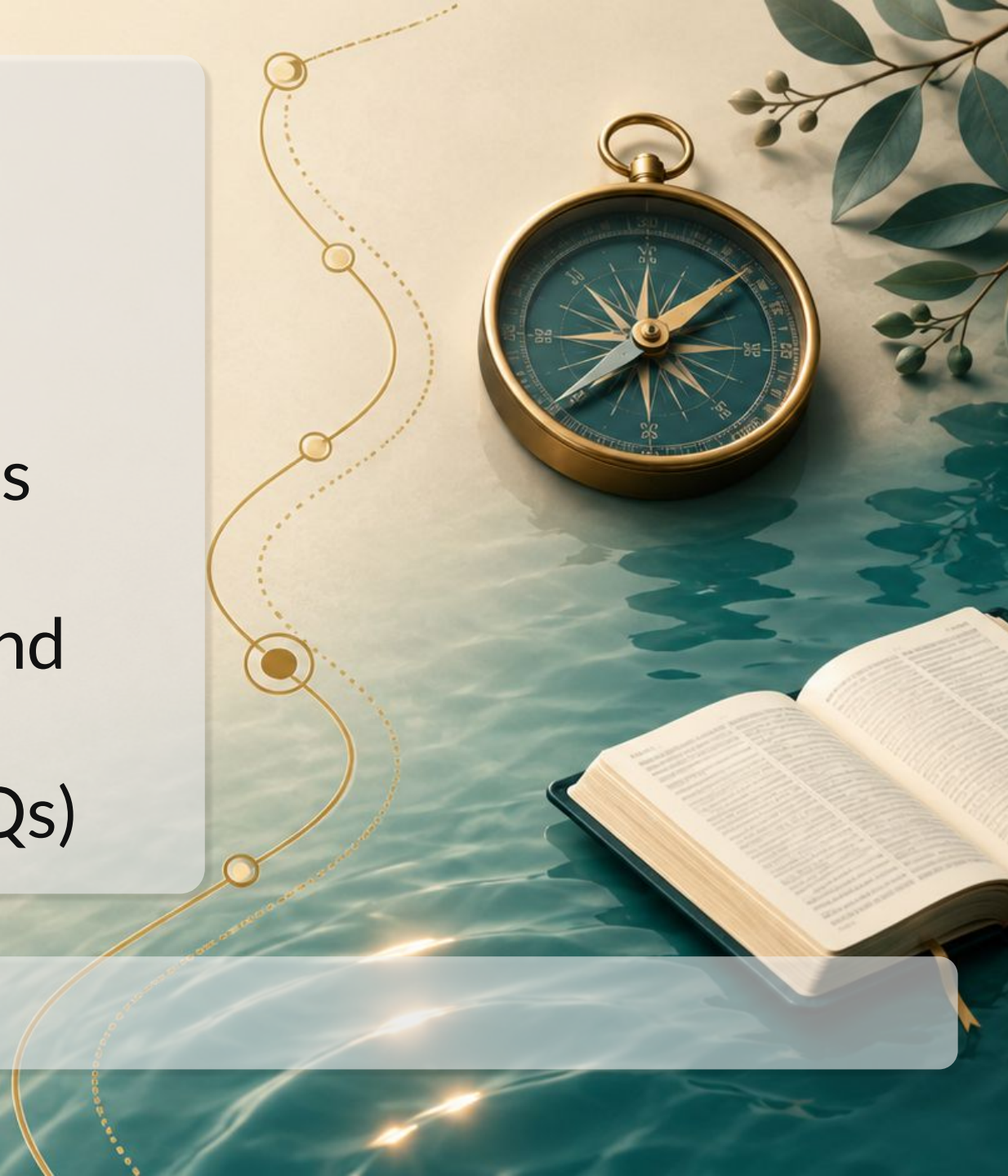
See baptism clearly in Scripture

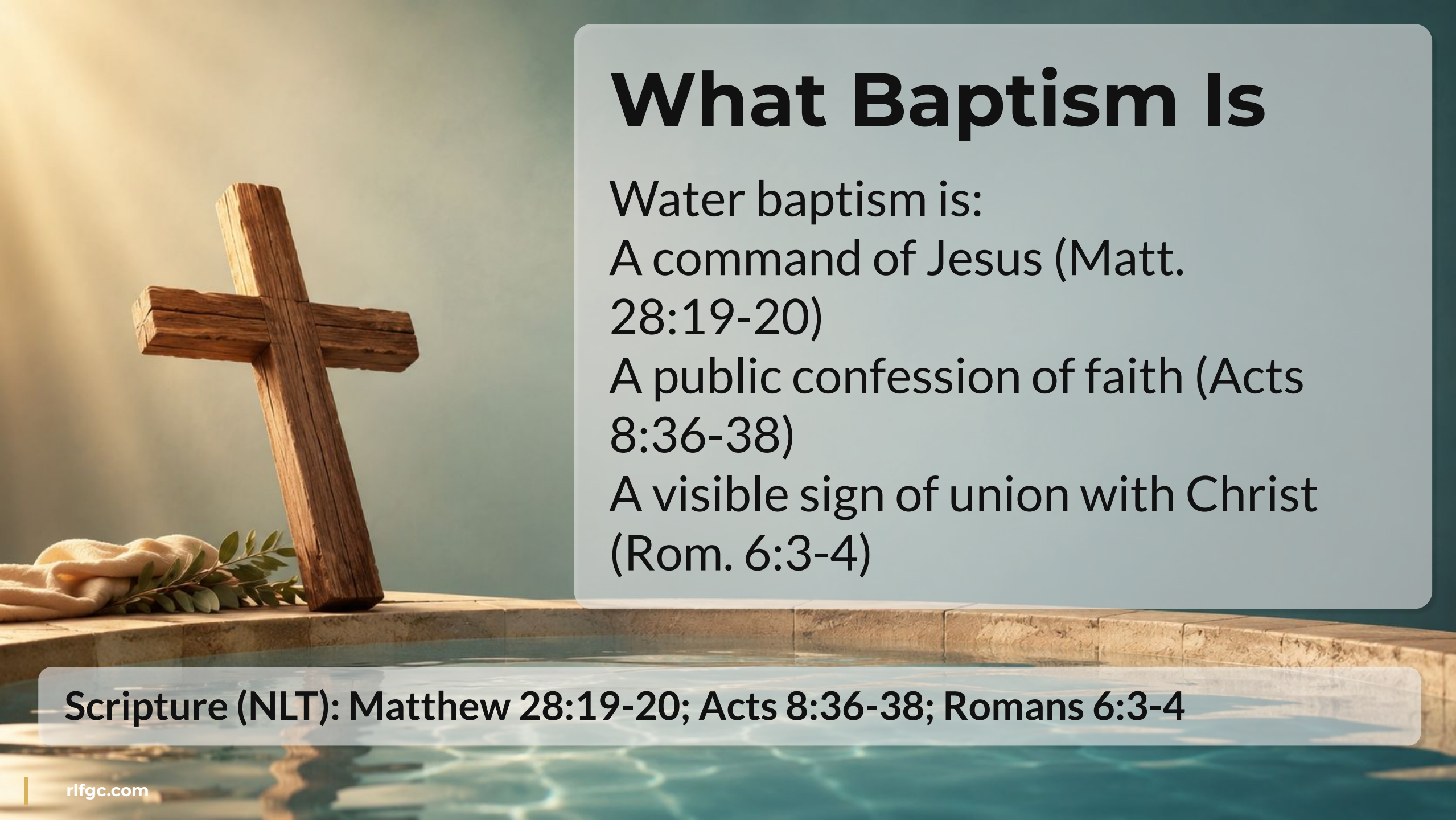
Understand what baptism means
(and does not)

Know who should be baptized and
when

Remove confusion and fear (FAQs)

Scripture (NLT): Acts 2:41-42





What Baptism Is

Water baptism is:

A command of Jesus (Matt. 28:19-20)

A public confession of faith (Acts 8:36-38)

A visible sign of union with Christ (Rom. 6:3-4)

Scripture (NLT): Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 8:36-38; Romans 6:3-4

The Gospel Pattern in Acts

The normal order:

- 1) Gospel preached (Acts 2:36-37)
- 2) Repent + believe (Acts 2:38)
- 3) Baptized (Acts 2:41)
- 4) Joined to the church (Acts 2:42)

Scripture (NLT): Acts 2:36-42; Acts 8:12; Acts 10:47-48; Acts 16:31-34

Union with Christ

Baptism pictures:

Buried with Christ / raised to
new life

Alive with Christ through
faith

New identity in Christ

Scripture (NLT): Romans 6:3-4; Colossians 2:12; 2 Corinthians 5:17

Cleansing (Carefully)

Scripture uses cleansing language:
Wash away your sins (Acts 22:16)
Not removal of dirt - appeal to God
Cleansing imagery tied to Christ
Key clarity: Christ saves; baptism
testifies.

Scripture (NLT): Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Ephesians 5:25-27

Baptism & Salvation

Guardrail #1: Saved by grace through faith

Guardrail #2: Real faith obeys Jesus
Baptism is not a work that earns salvation.
It is obedient faith made visible.

Scripture (NLT): Ephesians 2:8-9; John 14:15; James 2:17

Believer's Baptism

We practice believer's baptism only.
Why?

Baptism follows repentance/faith in
the NT

It functions as a personal confession
It is tied to discipleship

Scripture (NLT): Acts 2:41; Acts 8:12; Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 28:19-20

Mode: Why Immersion

Why immersion?

Best pictures

burial/resurrection

Fits down into / up out of scenes

Historic practice in many
churches

Scripture (NLT): Romans 6:3-4; Matthew 3:16; Acts 8:38-39

Who Should Be Baptized?

A biblical candidate:

Heard and understood the gospel

Repents and believes

Wants to follow Jesus as Lord

Ready to identify with Christ and

His people

Scripture (NLT): 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Acts 2:38-42; Luke 9:23

Age Questions

When kids/teens ask, we look for:

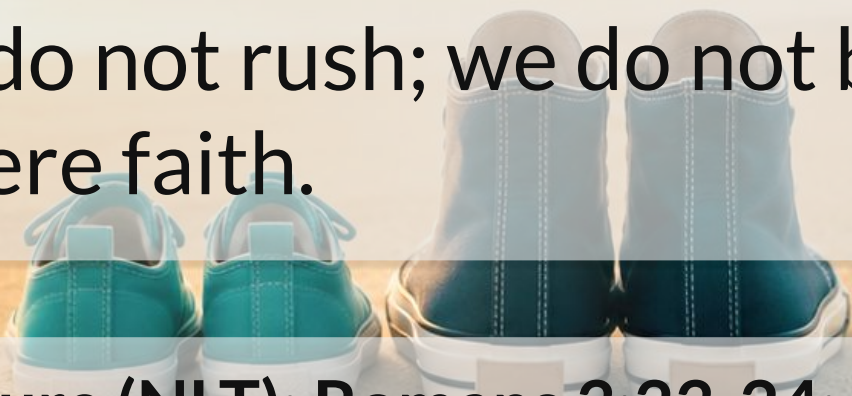
Understanding of sin and grace

Personal repentance and faith

Ability to explain the gospel simply

Fruit consistent with faith over time

We do not rush; we do not block sincere faith.



Scripture (NLT): Romans 3:23-24; Acts 3:19; Matthew 3:8

Baptized as a Baby?

Because we practice believer's baptism:
Infant baptism is not the same as NT baptism

Be baptized now as your personal confession

Not an attack on family - an invitation to clarity and obedience.

Scripture (NLT): Acts 8:36; Acts 2:41

FAQs (1)

Do I have to be baptized to be saved?
Salvation is by faith
Yet Jesus commands baptism
Known refusal is refusing obedience
Backsliding: usually no rebaptism;
repent and restore

Scripture (NLT): Ephesians 2:8-9; Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 6:46; Ephesians 4:5; 1 John 1:9

FAQs (2)

Can I baptize myself?

Baptism is received within the faith community

In Jesus' name vs Father/Son/Spirit?

We follow Jesus' command

Acts highlights allegiance to Jesus

Scripture (NLT): Acts 8:38; Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38

How to Get Baptized Here

Next steps:

Sign up / talk to a pastor or leader

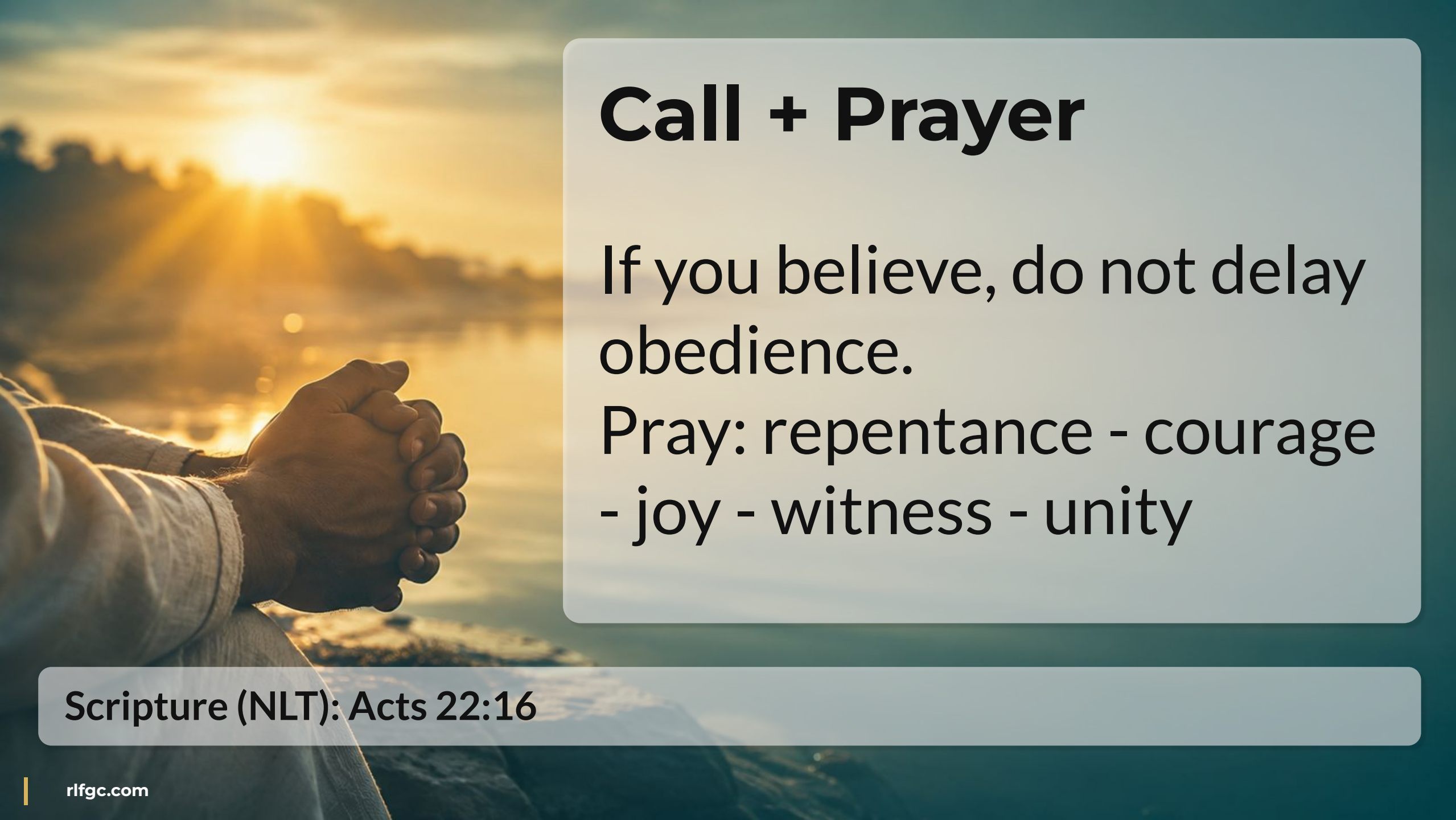
Short baptism interview +
testimony help

Baptism date + what to bring

Invite family/friends

Scripture (NLT): Acts 8:36



A person's hands are clasped in prayer, positioned on the left side of the frame. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon and its light reflecting on the clouds and water. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Call + Prayer

If you believe, do not delay obedience.

Pray: repentance - courage
- joy - witness - unity

Scripture (NLT): Acts 22:16