

WHAT'S HOLDING ME BACK?

Acts 8:26-40; Romans 6:1-4

As we were baptized, so we profess our belief. As we profess our belief, so also we offer praise. As baptism has been given us by the Savior, so we make confession of the faith, and our doxology in accordance with our faith.

Saint Basil

A Living Invitation (Acts 8:26-31)

Becoming a living invitation doesn't depend on where you are, it depends on who you are.

The more the good news becomes a part of us, the less threatening it is to talk about it.

A Living Word (Acts 8:32-34)

(Isaiah 53:7-8)

The good news is never embraced in a vacuum.

It starts where we are, but it always ends up with Jesus.

A Living Commitment (Acts 8:35-40)

(Romans 6:1-4)

A growing awareness must be followed by a decisive moment.

Baptism provides the believer's snapshot of that spiritual moment.

The snapshot shows that we were buried with Christ in his death and raised to new life in his resurrection.

Taking it home

If you can remember back to the days when you were on the road to Christ but hadn't gotten there yet, jot down a couple of "God appointments" that moved you closer.

Lot down the approximate date when you were baptized as a believer.

If you have "had your picture taken" in baptism as a believer, think back on that day and think about what that picture says about your life. If you are a believer and haven't had that snapshot taken, are you willing to consider it?