Going Deeper

Sermon Outline

(Sermon text and audio are available at <https://bvcob.com/sermon_post/>

**Command and Community**

Our first sermon for the new year focuses on BAPTISM and COMMUNION.

Baptism is CENTRAL to the last command Jesus gave before His ascension into heaven. Matthew 28:18-20

In the Great Commission there is a COMMAND....

* The command is to make DISCIPLES by BAPTIZING and TEACHING.
* Baptism IDENTIFIES a person with Jesus Christ. Romans 6:4-5
* Each of us is responsible to FOLLOW AND TEACH the commands of Jesus.

… and there is a COMMUNITY.

* We have EACH OTHER to help in the process.
* We have GOD to make it all possible.

In communion there is COMMUNITY....

* In a symbolic way we partake of the BLOOD and BODY of Jesus Christ.
* We IDENTIFY ourselves with the communion of Jesus’ sacrifice.
* There is also communion with EACH OTHER.

…and there is a COMMAND.

“Do this in remembrance of Me” was not a call to NOSTALGIA.

Thinking of the PAST leads to acting in the PRESENT.

*Study Guide for Sermon preached by Pastor Eric Reamer on* ***1/5/20***

“Command and Community”

**Matthew 28:18-20** **18**And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **19**Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20**teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

**Romans 6:4-5** Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. **5**For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection

Study Guide

*Study Guide prepared by Pastor Eric Reamer*

Open your time with prayer.

1. The book of Acts is the history of the early church as it spread from Jerusalem to Judea and to the rest of the known world. Almost every time we read of an individual or a group of people receiving Jesus Christ we read that they are baptized. The order of baptism is always after salvation. Why is this order important given Romans 6:4-5?
2. The command to make disciples is evident throughout the New Testament. Can you think of obstacles that get in the way of following our Lord’s commands in this area? What are obstacles that you personally have had to overcome or are still struggling with today?
3. Reread Romans 6:4-5. How do you understand verse 5? What application does this have for us today?
4. Community is very important in the role of making disciples. How can you participate in a “community effort” to make disciples at Buffalo Valley?
5. We do not engage in the disciple making process without the help of God. How do you rely on Jesus Christ and His power to help you make disciples?
6. The Brethren Church holds Love Feast two times each year where we eat together, wash one another’s feet and celebrate communion. How do these three elements help to strengthen community? If you do not regularly participate in Love Feast, would you consider it this April?
7. When Jesus said, “Do this in remembrance of Me” what do you think He had in mind? How can we fulfill this request in our lives today?

Close in Prayer