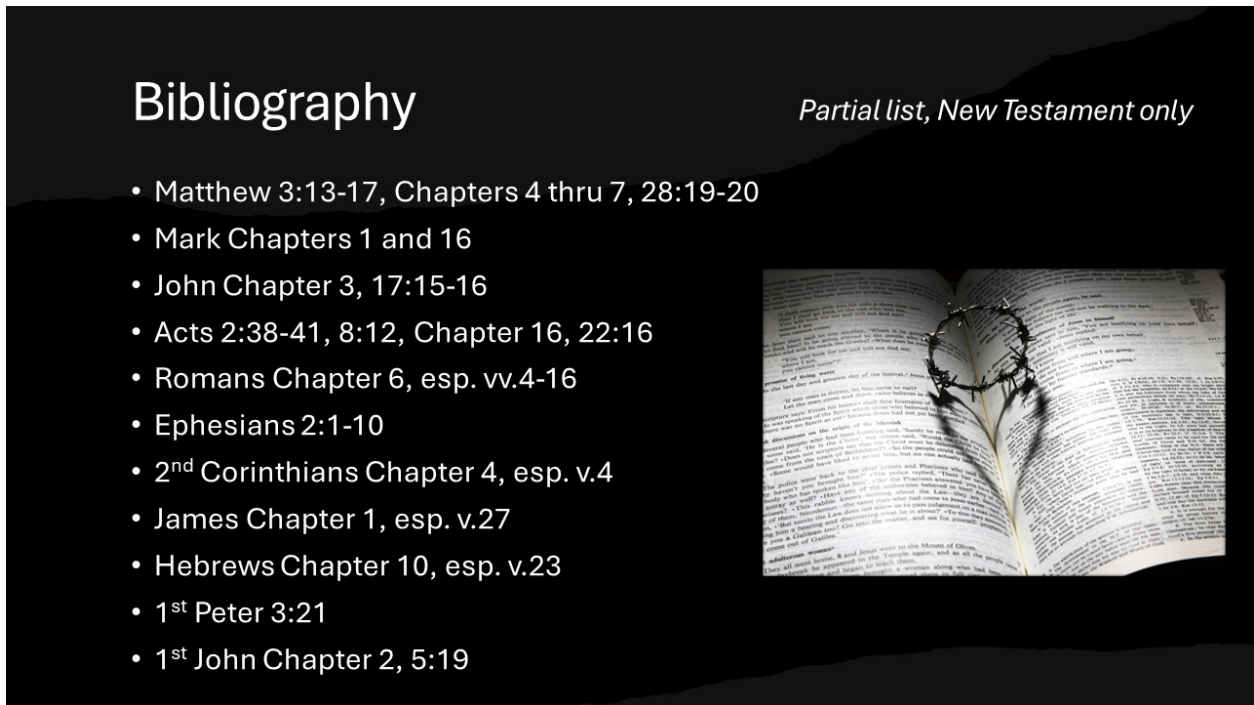




# Baptized

*(Phase 1 - Death)*

Joy! Church | 3.17.24  
We love you. Yes, you



## Bibliography

*Partial list, New Testament only*

- Matthew 3:13-17, Chapters 4 thru 7, 28:19-20
- Mark Chapters 1 and 16
- John Chapter 3, 17:15-16
- Acts 2:38-41, 8:12, Chapter 16, 22:16
- Romans Chapter 6, esp. vv.4-16
- Ephesians 2:1-10
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians Chapter 4, esp. v.4
- James Chapter 1, esp. v.27
- Hebrews Chapter 10, esp. v.23
- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:21
- 1<sup>st</sup> John Chapter 2, 5:19

## Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus left Galilee to come to the Jordan to be baptized by John. 14 But when [Jesus] waded into the water, John resisted him, saying, “Why are you doing this? I’m the one who needs to be baptized by you, and yet you come to be baptized by me?” 15 Jesus replied, “**It is only right to do all that God requires.**” (NRSV: *Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.*) Then John baptized Jesus.

16 And as Jesus rose up out of the water, the heavenly realm opened up over him and he saw the Holy Spirit descend out of the heavens and rest upon him in the form of a dove. 17 Then suddenly the voice of the Father shouted from the sky, saying, “This is my Son—the Beloved! My greatest delight is him.”

## Matthew 4:17

(right after Jesus’s 40-day wilderness test)

ESV, KJV. From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,

**“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”**

MSG. This Isaiah-prophesied revelation [Isa 40:3] came to life in Galilee the moment Jesus started preaching. He picked up where John left off:

**“Change your life. God’s kingdom is here.”**

TPT. From that time on Jesus began to proclaim his message...

**“Keep turning away from your sins and come back to God, for heaven’s kingdom realm is now accessible.”**

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## Table Time *Please listen well. No judging responses or debating.*

1. The “natural”: Competition, comparison, self-interest, self-protection. One up/one down, us vs. them. The world’s ways and systems naturally are founded in power and violence. **Discuss:**
  - a) Do you believe Jesus’s **Kingdom new life** fully overcomes all that? Why or why not?
  - b) Do you believe the Kingdom truly is founded in God’s love, that we truly can live that, and bring it wherever we go? Why or why not?
2. List some things or ways of the “natural” that you yourself might find challenging to put to death (and keep dead).