

• *Do you, the members of this church family, promise to receive BB with Christian love & care, to pray for him/her, and to seek their growth in the knowledge of Christ?*

• *Do you promise to pray for Dad & Mum, to encourage them & support them as the parents of BB?....*

• BAPTISM

BB....

I baptise you in the name of the Father, the son & the Holy Spirit.

• PRAYER

• INTRODUCTION

Now is a very special time in our meeting... for we're going to baptise BB Dad & Mum & ... coming up.

Words from Jesus...

"Unless I wash you... you have no part with me." (John 13.8)

Not so famous words... but they come from a famous incident in Jesus' life... when he washed the feet of his disciples.

Bit of an outrageous incident actually...

After a meal... Jesus dressed like a servant... and washed his followers feet.

Demeaning... embarrassing... humiliating..

Weird for the disciples...

Jesus their leader... great power... great authority... Son of God! serving them in such a humiliating way.

Peter protested...

"No way I can let you wash me feet..."

Jesus replied...

"Unless I wash you... you have no part with me." (John 13.8)

What was that all about?

Jesus told Peter & the disciples that it was symbolic.

All this took place not long before Jesus died on the cross...

& Jesus did it to help his followers understand his death on the cross.

If they thought it was bad for him to wash their feet...

that was nothing compared to what he was going to do...

When Jesus died on the cross he made it possible for someone to have their sins washed clean.

To have all the stuff that God holds against them washed clean...

to have all their guilt for things done that shouldn't have been done...

and to have all their guilt for things not done that should have been done...

to have all of that guilt washed clean...

Jesus died on the cross to make that possible.

To make it possible for someone who deserves hell receive heaven...

to be forgiven...

to receive life forever & full.

Jesus makes that possible... and only Jesus.

There's no other way for someone to have things sorted out between them & God than for Jesus to sort it out for them.

Bit embarrassing of course...

Bit humiliating to have to admit that we need help... that we need to be forgiven...

Exactly the embarrassment that Peter felt... and Jesus said...

"Unless I wash you... you have no part with me." (John 13.8)

When Jesus died on the cross he made it possible for someone to have their sins washed clean.

When Jesus died on the cross he made it possible for people like Dad & Mum to have their sins washed clean.

When Jesus died on the cross he made it possible for someone like BB to have his sins washed clean.

And that's why we're baptising BB tonight.

Not to name him... he's all ready got a name..... BB!

We're not baptising BB to secure a place in heaven for him...

We're not even making BB a Christian....

Whenever a child is born into a Christian family...

even before the child is born...

its parents... and relatives.... and friends... and church family...

will be at prayer for that child... asking God to give to them what they most desperately need...

to have their sins washed clean by Jesus.

That has been Dad & Mum's prayer for BB...

I hope it has all ready been our prayer.

And tonight as we baptise BB

the water is a symbol of the content of our prayers...

that BB might come to Jesus to have him wash clean his sins.

And as we pray... and as we baptise... our hope rests confidently in the sovereign goodness of God.

We look to him in faith to answer our prayers for BB.

Let's pray together now...

• PRAYER

• INTERVIEW

• **How did you come to be a follower of Jesus?**

• **What are your hopes & prayers for BB?**

• QUESTIONS & PROMISES

• **Do you believe that as the Son of God... Christ Jesus died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures?**

• **Do you look to Jesus in trust & obedience as your Saviour & your King?**

• **Is it the chief aim of your life to serve the true & living God & to wait for his Son from heaven?**

• **Do you declare that you bring BB to baptism as part of your deep desire & prayer that his sins might be forgiven through faith in Jesus?**

• **Do you promise to pray for the salvation of BB without ceasing?**

• **Do you promise to teach BB the message of God in the Bible?**

• **Is it your determination to live a godly life before BB.... a life of faith & love & obedience?**

• **As part of your godly life, is it your determination to be committed to the body of Christ, his church, and in particular.. his church?**

• **Do you promise all these things relying on God's good & sovereign grace?**

• QUESTIONS TO THE CHURCH FAMILY

As the church family we too have a responsibility to love this family... to encourage them & to point them to Jesus with our words & lives.

So I ask that as a church family we might stand and answer these questions...