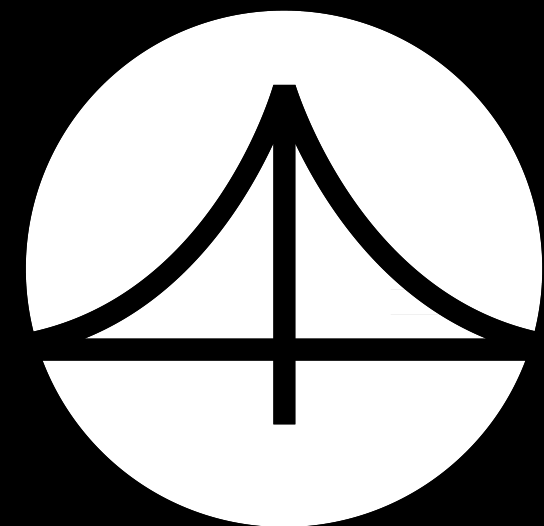


This is a Church: This is Baptism

Matthew 28:18-20



**Baptism is the sign of entry
into God's people.**

**1. The Case for Believer's
Baptism**

2. The Case for Infant Baptism

**3. Where Do We Go From
Here?**

Believer's Baptism

- Baptism is an outward expression of an internal choice to follow Jesus
- Matthew 28:18-20 says to make disciples before it says to baptize
- Follows the pattern in the book of Acts (see Acts 2:38; 8:12, 36-38; 9:18; 10:44-48; 16:13-15, 32-34; 18:8)

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

– Romans 6:3-5

Infant Baptism

- Baptism is a sign of inclusion in the covenant community and of belief

**And I will establish my covenant between
me and you **AND YOUR OFFSPRING**
after you throughout their generations for
an everlasting covenant, to be God to
you and to your offspring after you.**

– Genesis 17:7

Repent and be baptized every one of you
in the name of Jesus Christ for the
forgiveness of your sins, and you will
receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the
promise is for you **AND FOR YOUR
CHILDREN** and for all who are far off,
everyone whom the Lord our God calls to
himself.

– Acts 2:38-39

Infant Baptism

- Baptism is a sign of inclusion in the covenant community and of belief
- God gives covenant signs to the children of His people throughout the Bible
- Baptism and circumcision are both external signs that point to internal spiritual realities (Deut. 10:16; Rom. 6:3-5)

**In him also you were circumcised with a
circumcision made without hands, by
putting off the body of the flesh, by the
circumcision of Christ, having been
buried with him in baptism, in which you
were also raised with him through faith in
the powerful working of God, who raised
him from the dead.**

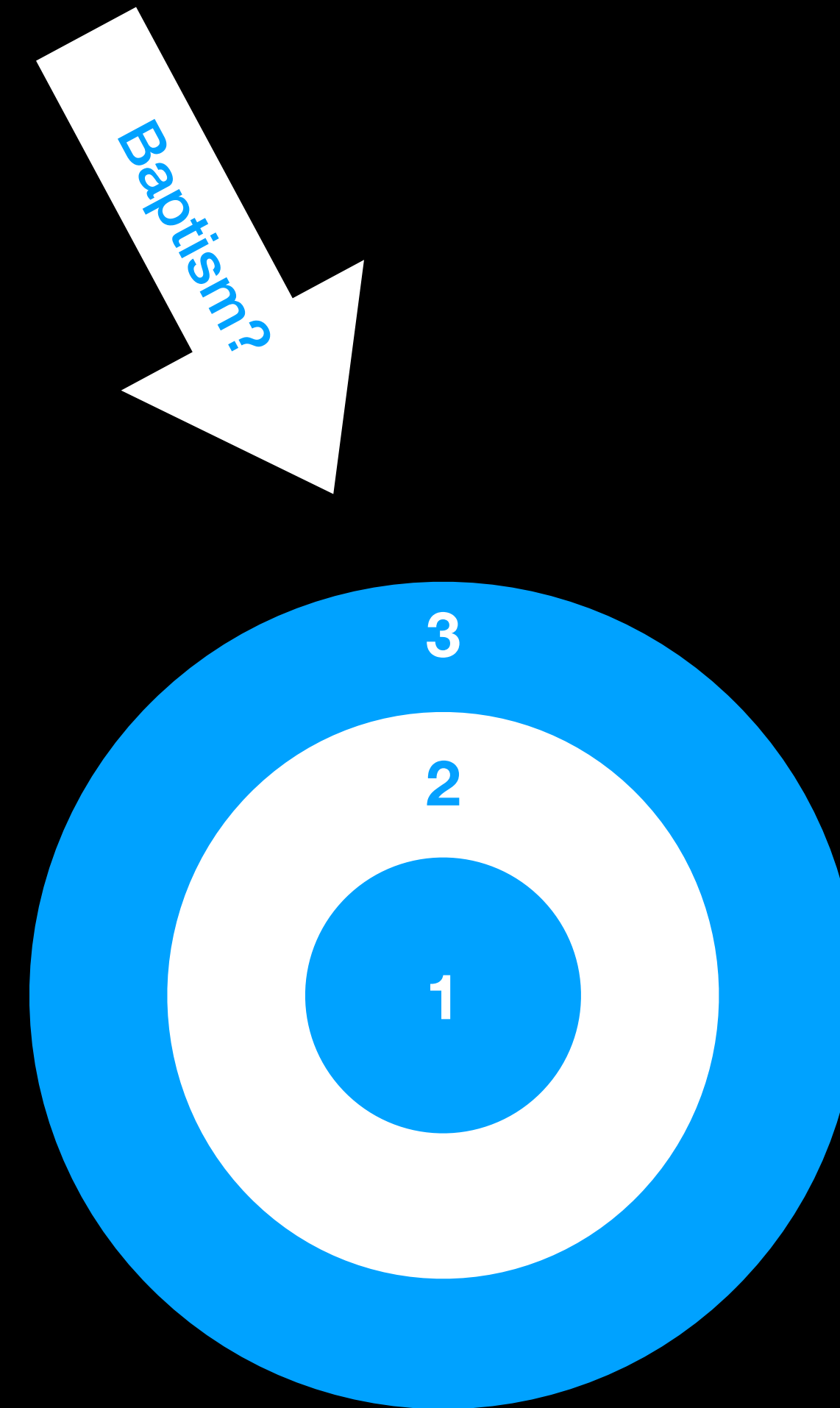
– Colossians 2:11-12

Infant Baptism

- Great Commission is for missionary context, not for children of believers
- Pattern of belief then baptism in Acts always happens in a missionary context
- Household baptisms (Acts 16:13-15, 32-34; 1 Cor. 1:16) may have included children too young to believe for themselves

Where Do We Go From Here?

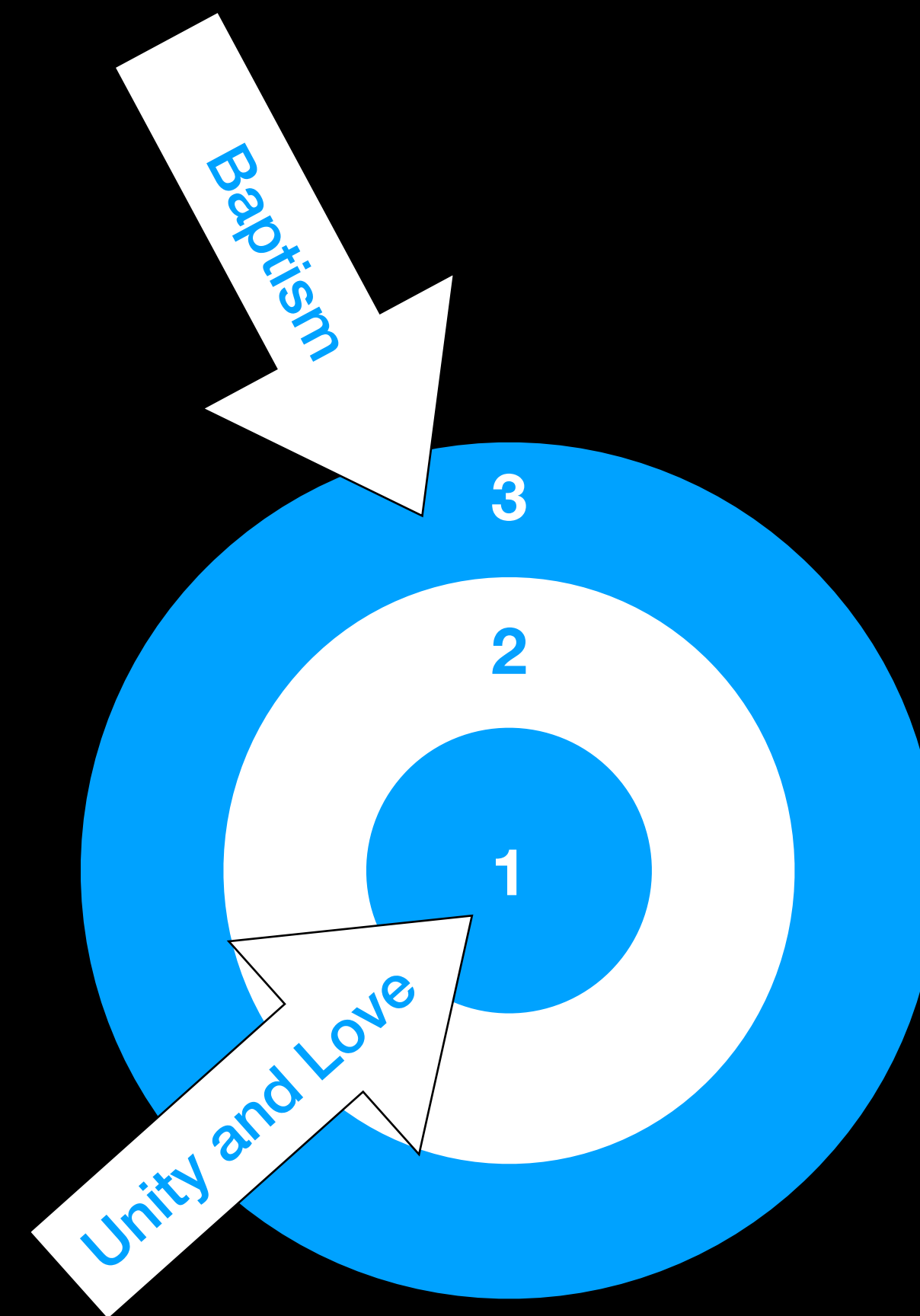
- 1 - Core Beliefs
- 2 - Christians can disagree, but hard to be in the same church
- 3 - Christians can disagree and be part of the same church



Matt. 28:18-20

Where Do We Go From Here?

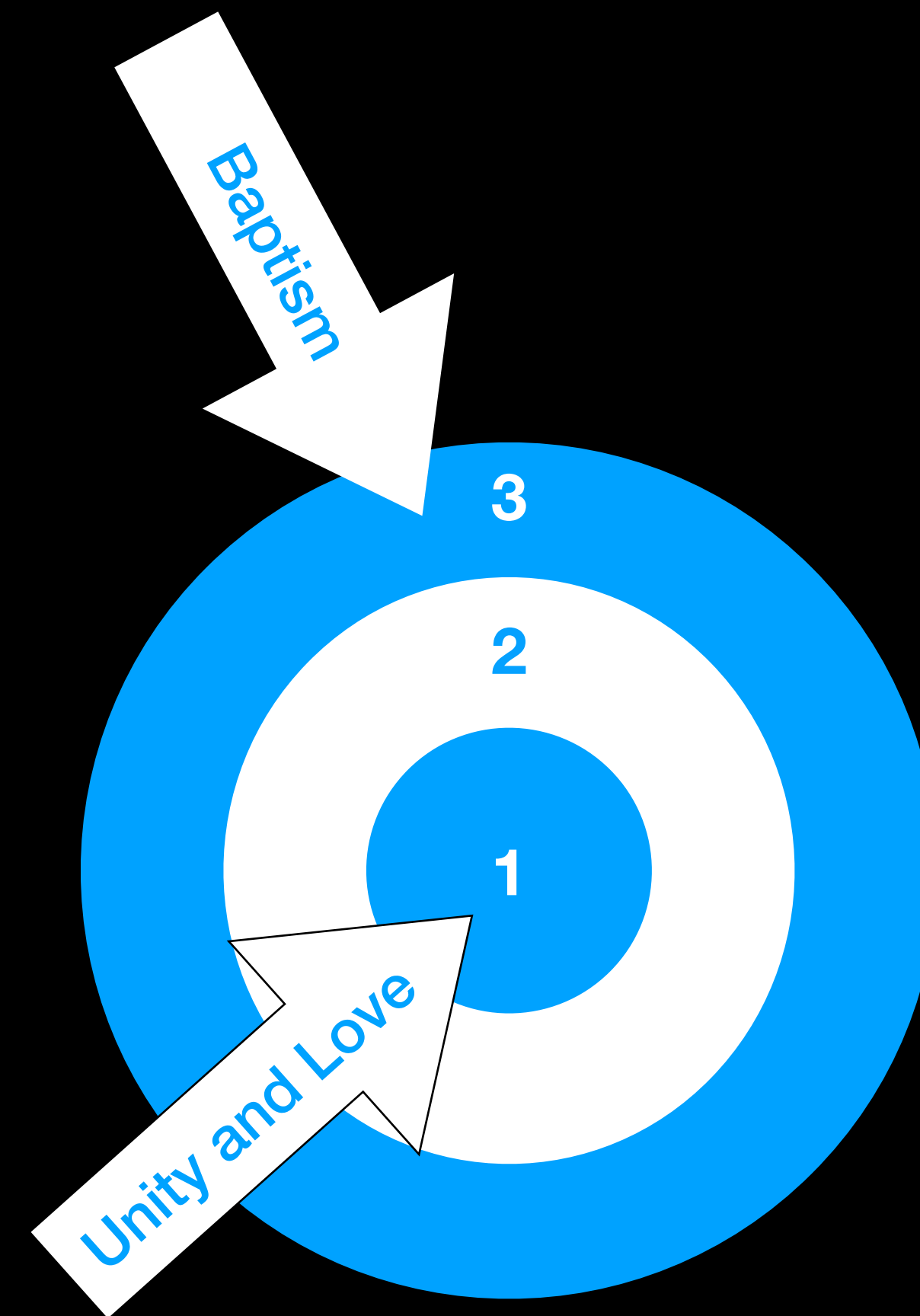
- NOT SAYING baptism is unimportant
- ARE SAYING unity in Christ is more important than disagreements on infant baptism



Matt. 28:18-20

Where Do We Go From Here?

- NOT SAYING you can hold any view of baptism you want
- ARE SAYING God wants us to prioritize loving one another over whether or not we baptize babies



Matt. 28:18-20