



WATER BAPTISM

A BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING



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Church.

Congratulations on your decision to follow Jesus Christ and take this next step of obedience through water baptism! This is a significant moment in your faith journey, and we're honored to celebrate it with you.

Water baptism is more than a tradition or ceremony. It's a public expression of your faith in Jesus and a declaration of your desire to follow Him. Through baptism, we identify with His death, burial, and resurrection and celebrate the new life we have through faith in Him. As Romans 6:4 reminds us, "We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead, we too may live a new life."

Baptism doesn't mean you'll never struggle or that you've arrived. It's a step of obedience that reflects what God has already begun doing in your heart and points toward a lifelong walk with Christ.

We hope you approach this moment with joy and confidence, knowing that God's grace, love, and purpose are at work in your life. We're excited to celebrate your story and walk alongside you in the journey ahead. Welcome to this next step in following Jesus!

With love and excitement,

TED ROBINSON

Lead Pastor | Church.







WHY ARE WE BAPTIZED?



1

To follow Christ's example.

Jesus was baptized to indicate his participation in the coming Kingdom of God. This gives us an example to follow as we strive to become more like Christ.

“At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: ‘You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.’”

MARK 1:9–11

2

As an act of obedience.

Jesus commanded us to go and make disciples which includes baptizing and teaching those who have put their faith in Jesus.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:19–20

3

As a public declaration.

Baptism is a public declaration of your faith in, and commitment to, Christ and your identification with His Church.

“As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.”

GALATIANS 3:27–29

4

As an act that joins us to the worldwide Christian community.

Baptism connects us with other believers around the world.

“Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.”

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12–13

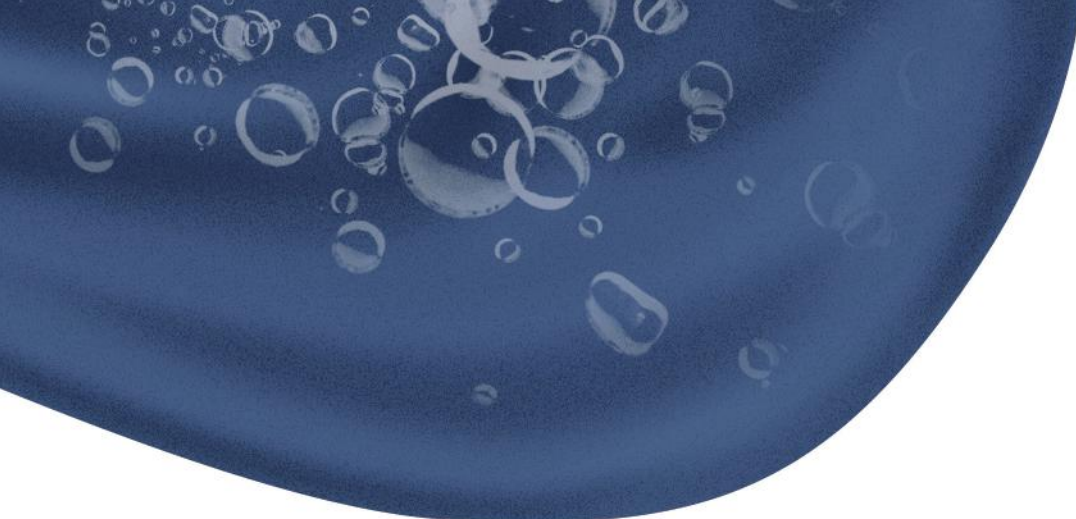
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As a symbol.

Baptism is a symbol of Christ's burial and resurrection. Being submersed identifies us with Christ's death on the cross, His burial in the tomb, and His resurrection from the dead. When we come up out of the water, we are emerging to walk as a new creation.

“...having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.”

COLOSSIANS 2:12



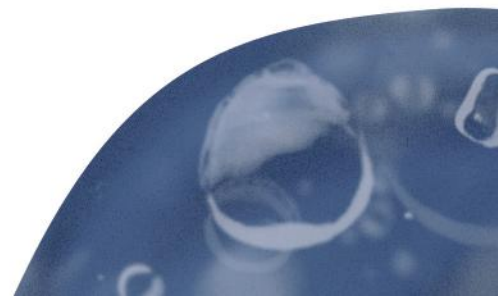
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Baptism does not save us; only faith in Christ can do that.

“One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: ‘Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!’ But the other criminal rebuked him. ‘Don’t you fear God,’ he said, ‘since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.’ Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.’”

LUKE 23:39–43

HOW ARE WE **BAPTIZED?**



Immersion in water.

"Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were coming and being baptized."

JOHN 3:23

As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?' And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him."

ACTS 8:36–38

By the authority of Christ.

We baptize in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This is commanded, and it reminds us that as we walk in our new life, we do so with the love of God the Father who created us, Jesus who rescued us with his sacrifice, and the Holy Spirit who guides us.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

MATTHEW 28:19

WHAT TO EXPECT

Prepare

Before your baptism, attend a baptism class and take time to ask any questions you have about water baptism. As you prepare, spend time with God through prayer and reading His Word, asking Him to strengthen your faith and deepen your walk with Him.

Wear

Most people choose to bring shorts and a dark t-shirt to wear into the baptismal tank. You should also bring a towel and a change of clothes for afterward.

Change

Your baptism instructor will let you know where changing areas are located based on the location where your baptism service is being held.

Celebrate

Baptism is a joyful celebration of your faith in Jesus. We encourage you to invite your family, friends, and others who have encouraged you in your faith so they can celebrate this special day with you.





A PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Jesus, on this day of my water baptism, I acknowledge that you are my Lord and my Savior. You died on the cross for my sins, and you rose from the dead to give me the power to live this Christian life as a life that is pleasing to you. My old life is buried with you in that tomb, and this day marks a brand-new day that I choose not to just be a believer in Jesus but a disciple and follower of Jesus. Amen.

YOUR NEXT STEPS

At Church, we believe you can't do life alone. Keep learning & growing in community as you follow Jesus.



Discipleship Class



Home Groups



Other Classes



Church.

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 thechurchwebsite.com