

# WATER BAPTISM

## I. WHY BE BAPTIZED?

### 1. To follow Christ's example.

"At that time Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized by John in the river." Mark 1:9

### 2. Because Christ commanded it.

"Jesus said, 'Go then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples, baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.'" Matthew 28:19-20

### 3. It shows you are a believer.

"..many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized." Acts 18:8

### 4. Obeying Christ's commands displays our love for Him.

"By this we know we have come to know Him, if we keep His commands." 1 John 2:3

## II. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM?

### 1. It is a symbol of Christ's death, burial and resurrection.

"Christ died for our sins...He was buried...and He rose again." 1 Corinthians 15:3,4

"For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ." Colossians 2:12

### 2. It is a symbol of your new life as a Christian.

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

### 3. It is a symbol of your cleansing from sin.

"...and the blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin." 1 John 1:7

### 4. It is a public declaration of your personal commitment to Christ.

"You are all God's children through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ." Galatians 3:26-27

**Baptism does not make you a believer, it shows that you already are one! Baptism does not "save" you, only faith in Christ does that. Baptism is the outward sign of an inward commitment that has been made.**

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith ...it is the gift from God - not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8,9

## III. WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

### 1. Every person who has made the decision to believe in Christ.

"Those who believed and accepted His message were baptized." Acts 2:41

The one requirement for baptism is personal belief in Christ! We do not baptize children until they are old enough to understand, and have personally trusted Christ for salvation.

### 2. If you have not been baptized since committing your life to Christ.

"But when they believed Philip as he preached the Good News...and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." Acts 8:12

This doesn't devalue a prior experience but simply reflects your desire to be baptized in the same way Jesus was baptized.

## IV. WHEN TO BE BAPTIZED

There is no reason to delay. As soon as a person believes in Christ, they can be baptized.

"Those who believed...were baptized...that day!" Acts 2:41

"Then Philip began with the Scriptures and told him the Good News about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, 'Look here is water! Why shouldn't I be baptized right now?' Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' The official answered, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.' Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him." Acts 8:35-38

## V. CAN A PARENT BAPTIZE ME?

Yes! We would allow a believing parent to assist in the baptism of their child. This can be a very meaningful experience for both the parent and child.

## VI. I DESIRE TO BE BAPTIZED:

Contact the church office (628-1980) and a Pastor will contact you prior to the baptismal date to answer any questions that you might have.

**GOD BLESS YOU AS YOU DEMONSTRATE YOUR COMMITMENT TO CHRIST IN THIS WAY!**

# Understanding BAPTISM



## Answering Some Questions



**Liberty  
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Church**