

Water Baptism Information Sheet



Matthew 28:19 – “Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”

What is water baptism?

Water baptism is an outward sign to the world of the inward change in our hearts. It is a public expression of our devotion to Jesus. Water baptism does not save a person. It is simply an important symbol of Jesus' death on the cross, His burial in the tomb, and His resurrection from the dead. It is also a picture of what happens to us as we identify with Jesus and choose to follow Him.

Romans 6:4 – “For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.”

Colossians 2:12 – “For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.”

Who should be baptized?

Every person who has decided to become a believer and follow Jesus should be baptized.

Acts 8:12 – “But now the people believed Philip's message of Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result, many men and women were baptized.”

Why should I be baptized?

Jesus Himself was baptized in the Jordan River (Matthew 3:13) and as believers we should seek to follow His example. Here are 3 simple reasons why we should be baptized.

1. Obedience – Jesus instructs us to follow His lead and be baptized as well. It is a meaningful and powerful act of faith and obedience to Him.
2. Identification – Baptism is a symbol of our new relationship with Jesus. The Bible says that we are new creations. The old has gone and the new has come (2 Corinthians 5:17). Baptism is also a picture of our new relationship with other believers. It connects us to a community of faith where we can grow in our spiritual journey. 3,000 people responded to Peter's sermon on the Day of Pentecost, were baptized, and were added to the church in one day (Acts 2:41).
3. Declaration – Baptism is a public confession. It demonstrates to others that we are believers and that we have chosen to put our faith and trust in Jesus.

Acts 2:38 – “Peter replied, ‘Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”

When should I be baptized?

Believers in the New Testament were baptized as soon as they made a decision to follow Jesus. In some instances, believers were baptized on the very same day that they decided to cross the line of faith. Today, believers should be baptized as soon as they have the opportunity to do so.

Acts 8:36,38 – “As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, ‘Look! There's some water! Why can't I be baptized?’ He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.”

How will I be baptized?

Jesus was baptized by immersion. That's what the word "baptize" means. To place or dip under water. This was the pattern used in the New Testament for baptizing believers and it is the pattern we use today.

Matthew 3:16 – "After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him."

Family and Friends

Making a decision to follow Jesus is a significant step in a person's spiritual journey. Being baptized in water is the natural result of making that decision. We encourage you to invite your family and friends to be a part of that celebration. If you are interested in being baptized in water, please fill out the water baptism application form and submit it to one of the pastors. We look forward to journeying with you and witnessing all that God is going to do in and through your life. God bless!