

Baptism: The Symbol of Freedom

by Will Pritchard

Table of Content

1. Scripture	Pg. 3
2. Baptism	Pg. 4
3. Baptism The Five Keys	Pg, 4 - 7
4. Baptism is Through Faith	Pg. 7
5. New-Covenant Membership	Pg. 7 - 9
6. Walking Daily In Newness of Life	Pg. 9
7. Outline in Sharing Your Testimony	Pg. 10 - 12
8. International Baptist Church membership	Pg. 13 - 16
9. Our Ministries	Pg. 17 - 20

Scripture

Colossians 2:8-15

8 See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces[a] of this world rather than on Christ.

9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10 and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. 11 In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, 12 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.

13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, 14 having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Romans 6:4;

We were therefore varied with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him,[b] and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son,[c] with whom I am well pleased.

Acts 8:12

But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Romans 6: 2-3

By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

Romans 6:4-5

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.

Baptism

This idea of baptism is not a new idea thought up by the New Testament writers. Originally, baptism was a sign of being rescued from your enemy. We explicitly see this in Exodus 14. Remember, that God has rescued Israel from under the bondage of slavery under Egypt, and now their enemy, the entire Egyptian army is about to destroy them, and Israelites were at a dead end. It was there that God divided the Red Sea, “and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left” (Exodus 14:21-22).

Once Israel came out of the water, their enemies were now pursuing them in the divided water, and it was there that “the Lord swept them into the sea. The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen - the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.” (Exodus 14:27-28). We know that God rescued Israel, but kill their enemy.

Furthermore, the symbol of baptism became a reality through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Baptism as we know it in the New Testament was fulfilled in the ministry, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The meaning of baptism is that God has fulfilled His covenant promised to Abraham in Genesis 12, and 15 that He will rescue the World from the evil one.

Through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, the enemy is destroyed, and resurrection is guarantee to all those who believe and are baptist in faith, in Jesus.

Baptism The Five Keys

All Baptist Churches, which includes International Baptist Church (IBC), Hong Kong, believe that baptism is an ordinance of the Lord, by which those who have repented and have come to faith express their oneness with Christ in His death and resurrection, by being immersed in water in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Baptism is a sign of belonging to the new people of God, the true Israel, and an emblem of burial and cleansing, signifying death to the old life of unbelief, and purification from the pollution of sin.

There are five key points that I will highlight and expand upon regarding baptism in today's Church.

1. Baptism is an Ordinance of the Lord

First, Scripture is clear that baptism is an ordinance of the Lord. What I mean by this is that the Lord Jesus commanded it - He ordained it - in a way that would make it an ongoing practice of Christian Mission to the World, and of the Church. We find this ordinance most explicitly stated in Matthew 28:19-20; "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

"Making disciples" is the main verb; "having gone, to make disciples of all nations." The defining participles are "baptizing them" and "teaching" them. So, the Church is called to do this for all disciples of Jesus our Lord. While we are discipling, teaching, and baptizing the disciples of Jesus, He has promised in Matthew 28:20; "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

So, Jesus has commanded us to disciple, teach and baptize the nations in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and He promised to help us till the end of the age.

2. Baptism Expresses Union with Christ

Second, baptism "expresses union with Christ in His death and resurrection." The clearest teaching on this is Romans 6:3-4;

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.

Paul stresses in Romans that faith in Jesus is the means by which we are united and justified in Christ. The proof of this faith, is that we show it through the act of being united with Christ, by being baptized in His name. Faith unites us to Christ, but baptism symbolizes this union before God and before the world.

Our baptism in Christ is what makes us become one with Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection. What does this mean to Christians today? It means that we are being renewed in Christ, that our old self, or our flesh of unbelief and rebellion and idolatry died and buried, and in our resurrection we become new in our love for God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and for serving Him by praying and by being a channel of God's blessings to the world.

3. Baptism is Immersion in Water

Third, we believed that this expression of union with Christ in His death and resurrection happens "by being immersed in water." The clearest evidence for this are the

words of Romans 6:3-4 which describe the act of baptism as burial and rising from the dead. This is most naturally understood to mean that you are buried under water and then come out of from the water to signify rising from the grave.

The word baptism in Greek means *dip* or *immerse*. We see many example of this in Scripture. Acts 8:37-38, the Ethiopian eunuch comes to faith while riding with Philip in his chariot and says, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" Philip agrees and it says, "He commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him."

That they "went down into the water" makes most sense if they were going down to immerse him, not to sprinkle him. Similarly it says in John 3:23, "John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there." You don't need plentiful water if you are simply sprinkling. You just need a jar.

Most Biblical scholars agree that this is the way the early church practiced baptism. Only much later does the practice of sprinkling or pouring emerge, as far as we can tell from the evidence.

So there is very little dispute that this was the way the early church baptized. They did it by immersing the new believer in water to signify his burial and resurrection with Jesus.

4. Baptism is in the Trinitarian Name

Fourth, baptism is part of God's way of commissioning the Church to do His will, by discipling and teaching all nations. Matthew 28:19; "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

In baptizing and teaching all nation we appeal to God the Father and God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit to be present in this act and make it true and real in what it says about their word in redemption.

5. Baptism is for Believers Only

Fifth, baptism is an expression of faith and therefore only for believers, who have repented, and have come to faith expressing their union with Christ on their own accord. This means that the believer is not a baby nor a child who cannot make their own decision. Why? Because Paul writes in Colossians 2:11-12 that having being buried with Christ in baptism, we were also raised with him "through faith." Paul writes;

In him [Christ] also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ [so Paul speaks of circumcision in "made-without-hands" terms. Circumcision today has meaning for the Christian, not as a physical act, but as a spiritual act of Christ in which he cuts away the old sinful body and makes us new. It is virtually synonymous with the new birth. Then he

speaks of baptism], 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.

Paul writes that when you come up out of the water signifying being raised with Christ this is happening “through faith.” Verse 12: “. . . In which [baptism] you were also raised with him “through faith.”

Baptism Is Through Faith

Galatians 3:26-27;

26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Paul wrote in Galatians that in order to become “sons of God,” we must believe, “through faith in Christ Jesus.” Likewise, in order to be one in Christ, we also must be “baptized into Christ.” Being Baptized into Christ is also done in faith in Christ.

Faith is believing in God, by accepting Jesus and his death and resurrection. Once we accept and believe in Jesus, we will then be baptized into Jesus through faith. Why? Because that is what baptism means: You were baptized into Christ by faith.

New-Covenant Membership

Exploring Galatians 2:15-21 will help us understand our new covenant membership in Christ Jesus, through baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

First, Galatians 2:15; "We are Jews by birth, not “Gentile sinners.” Gentile sinners are outside of the law, therefore they are sinners. The assumption is that because Jews are by birth, therefore they are within the law, and since they are within the law, they are not sinners.

Second, Galatians 2:16;

16; "But we know that a person is not declared (justify) righteous by works of the Jewish law, but through the faithfulness of Jesus the Messiah. That is why we too believed in the Messiah, Jesus; so that we might be declared 'righteous' on the basis of the Messiah's faithfulness, and not on the basis of works of the Jewish law. On that basis, you see, no creature will be declared 'righteous.'

This is the key move that Paul made. That on the basis of the Messiah-Jesus' faithfulness, we are declared or justify righteous and not on the basis Jewish law. Paul is alluding to Psalm 143; No one will be justify by keeping the law. Paul is reminding Peter and the other Jews, of what Scripture has already said about justification. The law does not justify, but simply judges right from wrong in the Old Testament (OT).

The only way that one can be justify, "declare righteous" is through the faithfulness of the Messiah; "That is why we too believed in the Messiah, Jesus: so that we might be declared 'righteous' on the basis of the Messiah's faithfulness, and not on the basis of works of the Jewish law." Only through Messiah-Jesus' faithfulness that we are declared righteous. This is the truth of the gospel, that Jews and Gentiles belong together, not by the law, but by the faithfulness of Messiah Jesus.

What is the "faithfulness of the Messiah means?" It simply means that Jesus was send by God to fulfill the covenant promise that God made to Abraham in Genesis 15, that He was going to become King of the World again, and that He will end the exile of Israel, and save the world from the curse of sin and death.

Third, Galatians 2:17-18;

17: Well, then; if in seeking to be declared 'righteous' in the Messiah, we ourselves are found to be 'sinners', does that make the Messiah an agent of sin?" Certainly not!" 18: "If I build up once more the things which I tore down, I demonstrate that I am a lawbreaker"

Paul writes, if you Peter, erect again that partition wall between yourself and the Gentile Christian brothers and sisters what you are doing is saying; I am coming back inside the Torah, because it is safe here. But the Torah will turn around and tell you that, those action in itself, breaks me. You either can be a sinner with Gentiles or be a lawbreaker coming back to the Torah. In Messiah-Jesus, you are not a sinner when eating with the Gentiles because the Messiah is declare both Jews and Gentles righteous in the sight of God.

Fourth, Galatians 2:19;

19: "Let me explain it like this; "Through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God."

The law bear witness to the law that you have to live the law behind, to die to it, in order to come out of the sphere of the law. Coming out of the sphere of the law meant you will find a new life in God.

Fifth, Galatians 2:20;

20 "I have been crucified with the Messiah. I am, however, alive - but it isn't me, it's the Messiah who lives in me. And the life I do still live in the flesh, I live within the faithfulness of the son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

How does one come out of the sphere of the law? We see the answer in v.20. The only way to escape the law, is through death. This is why Paul said, "I have been crucified with the Messiah." In the way Paul uses the word, co-crucified with the Messiah. Though I have been co-crucified with the Messiah, nevertheless, I am "alive," with new life. But it isn't my life, but the Messiah's own life, living in and through Paul. This goes together with Paul's idea of been baptized in Christ. We co-crucified with Christ, then we resurrect in the Messiah, therefore we become citizens of the new community of the new family in God.

Thus, when God looks at that community, God sees the life of the Messiah in those people, therefore God identifies Himself with the community of the Messiah. The life of Messiah in us, is the hidden reality of the divine life of the Son of God, therefore God Himself, in us. Paul's Point is this: I am no longer define by the Torah. Instead, we are define by the

death and resurrection of the Messiah-Jesu, both for Jews and Gentile Christians.

Paul then add "the son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" This is new for Paul, adding this statement. Love for Paul goes back to Deuteronomy, Isaiah, passages about God's covenant love, about God's choice of Israel, as his people, about God's love that he has rescued Israel from their sins, about the love of God by which the new exodus will come about. Paul sees all that love fulfill in and through Messiah-Jesus.

Sixth, Galatians 2:21;

21 "I don't set aside God's grace. If righteousness comes through the law, then the Messiah died for nothing."

In conclusion, If righteousness came through the law, then we would have no need for the Messiah's death on the cross. The covenant community will not be define by the Torah, but by and through "grace" of God found in the faithfulness of the Messiah-Jesus. We enter into this New family of God, by being co-crucified, or baptize in Jesus, and Jesus alone.

Walking Daily In Newness Of Life

The Christian life does not begin or end at the Christians' water baptism. Your Christian life began when you accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Baptism signifies your initial obedience to the Lordship of Christ.

Walking with Christ daily is an exciting and rewarding experience. The following steps will guide you to have an intimate walk with your Master Jesus Christ.

W - witness or share the message of Jesus Christ to others in the world (Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5).

A - abide or remain in Christ through your consistent prayer life and your faithful involvement in worship with the church (John 15:1-17, Philippians 4:6, Hebrews 10:25).

L - learn the disciplines and teachings of Christ through personal and group Bible studies and Discipleship Trainings (Matthew 11:28-30, John 15:7, Acts 2:42-47).

K - keep or follow the Lord's commandments as you acknowledge the lordship of Christ daily (John 12:25-26, Luke 9:23, Matthew 28:20).

Outline in Sharing Your Testimony

Introduction

Quick introduction about yourself; Your name? Where you were born? Where you grew up?

Before Trusting Christ:

Simply tell what your life was like before you surrendered to Christ. What were you searching for before coming to know Christ? What was the key problem, emotion, situation or attitude you were dealing with? What motivated you? What were your actions? How did you try to satisfy your inner needs? (Examples of inner needs are loneliness, fear of death, insecurity. Possible ways to fill those needs include work, money, drugs, relationships, sports, etc).

How You Surrendered Your life to Jesus

How were you converted or gave your life to Jesus? Simply tell the events and circumstances that caused you to consider Christ as the solution to your searching. Take time to identify the steps that brought you to the point of trusting Christ. Where were you? What was happening at the time? What people or problems influenced your decision?

Your Life Since Your Decision to Follow Jesus

How has your life in Christ made a difference? How has his forgiveness impacted you? How have your thoughts, attitudes and emotions changed? Share how Christ is meeting your needs and what a relationship with him means to you now.

Important Tips to Remember

1. Stick to the point. Your conversion and new life in Christ should be the main points.
2. Be specific. Include events, genuine feelings and personal insights that clarify your main point. This makes your testimony tangible - something others can relate to.
3. Be current. Tell what is happening in your life with God now, today.
4. Be honest. Don't exaggerate or dramatize your life for effect. The simple truth of what God has done in your life is all the Holy Spirit needs to convict others of their sin and convince them of his love and grace.

Example of my Testimony

My name is Will Pritchard. I have accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord, and I have been baptized by immersion. He is the Lord of my life, and through the power of His Spirit I belong to a

spiritual family on earth and in heaven. However, to recount this momentous experience I have to touch on issues of my own childhood life experience which sets the stage of what created the hunger for me to search for something more than myself.

As a child I was given away at the age of three by my dad as a goodbye gift to his best friend who was leaving our country, Samoa, for the U.S. However, my step-father did not take me with him to the U.S. Instead, I was left with his parents in Samoa who raised me from the age of three till I was ten. My adopted grandparents were Pastors in a Methodist Church in Samoa. Then, at the age of ten, I was then given back to my biological family who were leaving Samoa to take residence in New Zealand 1982. I was not abused by anyone or mistreated by my adopted family. In fact, I was loved by my adopted grandparents as one of their own child.

However, this experience left deep emotional trauma, insecurity and the longing to belong in my heart. I can almost understand how Moses may have felt as a young man growing up in the courts of Pharaoh with his childhood experience hanging on his shoulder. I strongly suspect that one of the reasons why Moses killed the two Egyptians was because of his desire of wanting to belong. A desire to belong to something or to a cause is so deep that one would kill for it. I know that deep within my own heart, before God, I have forgiven my dad, and we have a great relationship. However, my childhood experience has shaped my life and my personality till this day. In fact, in order for me to know myself, I have to understand how this event affected my life.

The most important date in my life was 1989. This was the year that my life changed forever. During this time I was actively involved in sports at my High School. It was in the Rugby team that I met a couple of friends who were actively living out their Christian life. I noticed that something was different about how they lived their lives. There was a sense of purpose, joy and hope in how they lived their lives that attracted me to them. It was also at this time that I was thinking about my own future, and what I wanted to be in life. However, the more I looked into the future the more despair I became.

One day, during the New Zealand summer of 1989, my friends invited me to a Christian Rally. It was the first time I had attended a Christian activity such as this. The first thing I noticed at this Christian rally that captivated me that night, was the worship. There was a particular elderly man, so physically weak looking standing next to me worshipping in a way I have never seen before in my life. He had his eyes closed, and it seemed to me that he was in an intimate communication with something outside of himself, yet had a deep, deep connection with that something. As the singing became slower, his face changed from being weak looking to someone full of hope, confident, secure, trust and strong. I remember admiring this elderly man, and said to myself, I desperately want what he has.

My heart was longing, no in fact, desperate for what this elderly man had in his life. I was desperate for hope, security, and my deepest need of belonging. In fact, my desperation to get what this man had, drove me to my feet and soon found myself standing alone in the front of the speaker before he had finished speaking. That night I felt the Spirit of God deeply embracing me, renewing me to the point that I could not physically stand on my own two feet. I felt so light and so pure with a deep sense of divine joy as I gave the control of my life over to the Lordship of Christ and invited Him into my life as my Savior.

Ever since that moment, I have been on a journey of discovering who God is and His will for my life. I want to challenge you to look to Jesus Christ. It is through Jesus Christ that we receive the Spirit of God that will enable us to belong to the community of Christ and to guide us in our journey on earth. I am still walking with Jesus. He is still transforming me. Sometimes it is hard, but the sense of belonging to Jesus is so powerful that even death will not separate us with His love.

Membership in the Local Church

So we can see how the meaning of baptism is woven together with membership in the people of God, the New Family of God through the Messiah Jesus. And since the local church is an expression of that people, baptism is closely connected to membership in the local church.

In the New Testament, being a Christian, being baptized, belonging to the new-covenant people of God, and being a member of a local church were linked together. If you tried to pull one of those out (not a Christian, or not baptized, or not in the new-covenant people, or not a member of local church), it would have made no sense. They belonged together.

So baptism is important.

- It was uncompromisingly commanded by the Lord Jesus.
- It was universally administered to Christians entering the early church.
- It was uniquely connected to conversion as an unrepeatable expression of saving faith.

International Baptist Church Membership



IBC Vision, Mission & Core Values

Our Vision:

IBC exist To Glorify God as One Caring Community of

Disciples

- We seek to glorify God in our corporate and personal worship of the one true God (Mark 12:28-31).
- We seek to glorify God on earth by accomplishing the vision and mission that God has given IBC like that of our Lord Jesus and the Kingdom of God (John 17:4).
- We seek to glorify God by fulfilling the Great Commission that Jesus our Lord gave us in Matthew 28:19-20, in making disciples of all nations.

Our Mission:

IBC is called by God to establish and unite caring communities within IBC, Hong Kong, and beyond which are rooted in the Word of God, the love of Christ, the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

Our Mission highlights how we are going to serve our Vision. As a Church community we seek to unite, equip, inspire caring communities of disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, with the desire to send these caring communities out to proclaim the name of Jesus and His Gospel to our neighborhoods in Hong Kong and beyond. These caring communities of disciples are to be rooted in the Word of God, the love of Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

Our Core Values:

Our Core Values are our fundamental believes that will become our guiding principles that characterized our behavior and action as a Church before God and before Hong Kong.

1. We seek to love God first and then love others! (Luke 10:27-28)
2. We seek to live God centered lives
 - a. In our worship (1 Corinthians 10:30)
 - b. Bearing fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)
 - c. In our lifestyles (Romans 8)

- d. In our relationships (Acts 2:42-47)
3. We seek to love, know and live out the WORD of God (John 15:5)
 - a. Love the Word (Matthew 4:4)
 - b. Know the Word (1 Timothy 3:16)
 - c. Live the Word (James 1:22)
4. We seek life Transformation in our discipleship (Rom. 12:1-2)
 - a. Through the Word
 - b. Through prayer
 - c. Through fellowship
5. We seek to live Compassionate lives (Luke 15, Colossians 3:12)
 - a. Expressed through mercy, grace, non-judgment
 - b. Love your neighbor, unconditional love (Luke 10:27-37)
 - c. Serve one another - servant heart
6. We seek to Reach out with the love of Christ (Matthew 28:19)
 - a. Sharing our faith
 - b. Sharing resources, reaching out to widows, orphans and the poor (Acts 2)
 - c. Showing hospitality - welcoming others
7. We seek to live in Unity and in Diversity as a Church (John 17)
 - a. Respect and Inclusion of different cultures, social status (Galatians 3:28)
 - b. Intergenerational participation in community

Our Membership Covenant:

Having received Christ Jesus as our Lord and Savior and been baptized, and being in agreement with IBC's vision, mission and core values, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the IBC church family. In so doing, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:

1. I will live by, and uphold the , mission and core values of IBC.
2. I will protect the unity of my church
 - by acting in love toward other members
 - by refusing to gossip
 - by following the leaders
3. I will share the responsibility of my church
 - by praying for its growth
 - by inviting the unchurched to attend
 - by warmly welcoming those who visit
4. I will serve the ministry of my church

- by discovering my gifts and talents
 - by being equipped to serve by my pastors
 - by developing a servants heart
5. I will support the testimony of my church
- by attending regularly
 - by living a godly life
 - by giving regularly

Duties of Members

All members are expected to be faithful in all the duties essential to the Christian life and regularly support the services and organized work of the Church with their presence, talents, tithes and offerings.

Rights and Privileges of Members

All regular members of the Church shall have equal rights and privileges entitling them to hold office and to vote in the transaction of the Church's affairs.

Termination of Members

Termination of membership can be accomplished only by a majority affirmative vote of regular members attending a business session of the Church. Termination is effective from the time of that Church action. Upon recommendation of the membership committee and or deacons, termination of members shall be considered: -

- if a member so requests, either in person or in writing
- if a member is definitely know to have joined another Church of faith, or
- as disciplinary action, in which case such member shall have the right to make oral representations before the Church.

Our Ministries

We have over 50% of IBC members involved in either leading or volunteering in one or more of our ministries listed below. We encourage and empower all of our members to participate in serving God through our ministries. Prayerfully, consider being part of IBC's ministries. As you serve, the Lord will bless you, your family and especially our Church.

Children's Ministry

The mission of the Children's Ministry is to partner with parents to inspire and equip all children to love God, to know the Word of God and to reach out with the love of God.

We have close to 35-40 children and 13 Sunday School teachers:

1. Pre-School:
 - We Care – ages 0 - 3
 - Promise Land – ages 4 - 5
2. Mighty Kids – ages 6 - 8
2. Super Mighty Kids – ages 9 – 12

Our Children's Ministry will host a number of family outreaches and outing throughout Hong Kong and are currently preparing for their Vacation Bible School (VBS) focusing on reaching those who do not yet know Jesus as their personal savior. If you would like to know more and have a desire to serve in our Children's Ministry Team please contact our Children's Ministry Office at email carlos.spencer@ibc.org.hk or by phone +852 28916320.

Youth & Young Adult Ministry

The mission of our Youth Ministry is to CULTIVATE a thoughtful, durable, and productive faith, EMPOWER students for ministry, while SENDING them out as witnesses for Christ to their classmates, friends, and families.

The Youth are engage in FUSE, a weekly Friday night fellowship, and Soul Café, Sunday Teaching session from 11:45am – 12:45pm. The Youth also have annual camps and mission trips in Hong Kong and beyond.

Young Adults ministry seeks to create space for community and fellowship for the young adults at IBC. The Young Adult have a regular monthly lunch fellowship. This is a great time for the young adults of IBC to fellowship and build one another up in our Lord.

If you are interested in knowing more about our Youth & Young Adult Ministry please contact Perry So at email: perry@ibc.org.hk or by phone +852 28916320

Woman's Ministry

The purpose of the Women's Ministry Team is honor God, grow in Christian maturity through studying the God's Word, share God's love, be faithful servants and to go into the community as Christians witnesses

The Women's ministry studies the Bible and fellowship weekly on Tuesday at the Church office. They also host a number of events including an annual Women's Retreat.

If you would like to know more about our Women's Ministry please contact Delia Wong or Vicky Lee at email women@ibc.org.hk

Music Ministry

The purpose of the Music Ministry is to provide inspired and authentic worship leading, and bring honor and glory to God, blessing and encouragement to all through music. The worship team leads our congregation in worshiping God every Sunday. There are five worship teams that lead our church in worship.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Music Ministry please contact Patty Lo at email patty@ibc.org.hk or by phone +852 28916320

Discipleship & Small Community Group Ministry

Discipleship at IBC is a life long journey in which a baptized follower of Jesus Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, lives a self-denying life of obedience to the teach of Jesus Christ learned from Scripture in worship of God the Father. We have Sunday LIFE (Living in Faith Everyday) Groups made up of five adult groups, one Youth Group, three Sunday School groups.

During the week we also have Small Community Groups (SCG) located in areas where majority of IBC members live, in Hong Kong Island and Kowloon. The focus of our SCGs is to develop communities of IBC through growing in our three vital spiritual relationships. Our relationship with God, with one another, and with our neighbors.

If you would like to know more about our Discipleship Ministry please contact Will Pritchard at email: willjp.ibc@gmail.com

Men's Ministry

The purpose of the Men's ministry is to ENGAGE men to build and develop authentic

relationships in Christ, to ENCOURAGE them to grow spiritually, LOVE and lead their families, SERVE the Body of Christ, and to be EFFECTIVE witnesses in their world.

The men's ministry has a weekly lunch fellowship, and a monthly prayer meeting.

If you would like to know more about our Men's Ministry please contact Samuel Lam at email slam04@gsb.columbia.edu

Prison Ministry

The vision of our Prison Ministry is to see all prisoners come to know Jesus as Savior and Lord. The mission of the Prison Ministry is to EMBRACE the prisoners with God's love, care and compassion, and to help them having empathy.

Our Prison Ministry partners with Asian Baptist Women's Fellowship Hong Kong. There are about twenty-five women from different churches throughout Hong Kong who are visiting different prisons on a weekly basis.

If you would like to know more about our Prison Ministry please contact Latika Paul at email latika@abwfhk.org

Prayer Ministry

The goal of the Prayer Ministry is to encourage prayer among all the members of IBC; to INTERCEDE in prayer for the different ministries as well as for individuals in need of God's special attention and care, or empowerment; to HELP church members grow in their prayer life and in their understanding, as God's children, of the importance of prayer in the spiritual battles that we are engaged in.

If you would like to know more about our Prayer Ministry please contact Charles Ip at email ci4c@yahoo.com.hk

Audio and Visual Ministry

The mission of the Audio Visual Ministry is to praise, serve and glorify God and to make disciples for Jesus. The audio and vision ministry include website, stage location, sound system, and AV control booth.

If you would like to know more about our Audio and Visual Ministry please contact Rommel Japson on email: rommeljapson@gmail.com

Mission's Ministry

The goal of IBC missions effort is to win individuals to the Lord, equip them in the faith and establish them in a church plant or existing church that has the same purposes as

IBC to reach every tribe, tongue, people and nation with the Gospel (Acts 14:21-23), and Rev 5:9).”

If you would like to know more about our Mission’s Ministry please contact Steve Metz on email: metzs@ics.edu.hk