

Baptism



Baptism has been around for **thousands** of years.

It was done in the **Old Testament** days.

It was certainly done in the **New Testament** days.

Christians have been baptizing ever since the beginning of the **church**.

Baptism has never **ceased** to be a part of the Christian faith, even through today.

Don't get hung-up on things that baptism is not.

Baptism is not **mystical**, like something magical happens with the water.

Baptism is not outdated, **ancient**, and “too old”; people are still baptizing today.

Baptism is not done to **earn** salvation or grace; it's all about **receiving** those things.

Baptism is not meant to be **denominational**, but for everyone who desires to follow Jesus.

In Christian faith, baptism is simple.

Baptism is doing what Jesus **commanded** of all of his disciples. (Matthew 28:16-20)

Baptism has always been part of the “**elementary** teachings of Christ”. (Hebrews 6:1-2)

Baptism is something done by **faith** and because of **faith**. (Galatians 3:26-27)

Baptism is when a person **devotes** his or her life to Jesus and living for him. (Romans 6:1-14)

Baptism is when a person **unites** with Jesus in his death, burial and resurrection. (Rom 6:1-14)

Baptism is when a person makes a **pledge** from their heart to God. (1 Peter 3:18-22)

Baptism is when a person **calls** on the name of Jesus. (Acts 2:32,38; Romans 10:9-13)

Baptism is when a person's sins are **washed** away. (Acts 22:16)

Baptism is when a person is **clothed** with Christ. (Galatians 3:26-27)

Baptism is a person's fresh start, a **new beginning**. (Colossians 2:11-12)

Some people think baptism is not important. However, based on all that the bible says about baptism it's hard to deny the role of baptism in a person's commitment to Jesus and God's salvation.

- Read the verses again at home, with your parents. Discuss together what these verses say about baptism's role in our lives.
- Then, using your own words, write a page long letter to yourself (you 10 years older than you are now) and explain your thoughts on baptism. Be sure to include scripture references and your own personal conclusions.
- Other important verses to study pre-baptism: Luke 1:26-35, 3:21-23, 8:28-35; John 3:16-17, 5:19-29, 8:51, 11:25-26, 18:33-39; Luke 9:21-26; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 1:21