



BAPTISM

- What is baptism?

Baptism is a public declaration of God's saving work that has already taken place in us once we have received Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

When we give our life to Jesus Christ, our old self with its sinful passions and desires dies and we are given new life in Him. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Through baptism, we symbolically identify with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our being laid down in the water symbolizes death and our being raised out of the water symbolizes resurrection – both Christ's and our own! (Colossians 2:12)

- Why should we be baptized?

In the New Testament, we read that baptism is the first step of obedience given for new believers to take as they begin their new life of following Christ (Matthew 28:19). Throughout the book of Acts, we see this being faithfully carried out (Acts 2:41, 8:35-38, 16:31-33). This pattern of obedience has been given for us to follow.

- Is there anything special about the water?

The water itself has no power to save us or wash away our sin. It merely serves as a picture of the life-giving power of the gospel (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).



- **Can baptism be done privately instead of publicly?**

Jesus promised us that if we're willing to acknowledge Him publicly, He will in turn acknowledge us before His Father in heaven (Matthew 10:32). When we take Him at His word and make a public profession of our faith through baptism, we receive great blessing!

- **What if I was already baptized as an infant?**

When we look at the pattern given to us in the New Testament, we see that believers were baptized when they heard the gospel and personally responded in faith and obedience. These are things an infant cannot do. Therefore, when a person is of the age to hear, understand and personally respond in faith to the gospel, their first step of obedience is to be baptized in gratitude for what Christ has done for them and in them.

Information regarding the day of your baptism

What should I wear and bring with me?

- A modest bathing suit, a large t-shirt and flip flops
- A towel, a change of clothing (if desired) and a hair brush

What time is the baptism and where will it be held?

The baptisms will take place on Sunday after service and will be held outside in front of the stage

Who should I invite?

Because this is a public profession of your faith in Jesus Christ, we highly encourage you to invite anyone who will celebrate with you – even those who don't know Christ – as a witness to them (family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, etc.)

How will I know what to do when I'm being baptized?

Just before the baptisms begin, you will be instructed by one of the pastors who will be baptizing you