

Why Baptism?

We are all separated from God because of sin...

So Jesus came to earth and died on a cross to restore our relationship with God.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. Romans 3:23-24

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

Grace is a gift from God. But we must receive the gift.

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

“Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’” Acts 2:38

Baptism is a part of receiving the gift of salvation.

Baptism is like Spiritual birth

Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried 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. Romans 6:3-4

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 1 Corinthians 5:17

We enter into life in Christ and He recreates us. We are reborn. Baptism is a picture of a person's spiritual death and spiritual rebirth.

Baptism is like a wedding

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. Ephesians 5:25-27

If we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. Romans 6:5-8

Baptism is like a wedding ceremony. It is the event that makes the relationship official. It gives the individual an event to look back on to remember the surrendering of his/her life to Jesus, officially committing to follow Him and Him alone. Baptism marks when a believer becomes united with Jesus.

Does baptism save you?

No, God saves you when you place your faith in Jesus' death and resurrection.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8

Who should be baptized?

In the Bible, the only people to be baptized into Christ were people who had heard about Jesus and were old enough to place their faith in Him, turn away from their sins and confess Jesus Christ as Lord (or leader of their life).

A person must make the decision for themselves.

If you are old enough to hear and understand the Gospel and believe, then you should be baptized, even if you were sprinkled as an infant.

and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 1 Peter 3:21

How should I be baptized?

The New Testament was written in Greek. The word ‘baptize’ is not a translation, but a transliteration of the Greek word βαπτίζω.

Βαπτίζω literally means “immerse”.

Jesus was immersed.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. Matthew 3:16

What if I was baptized by immersion and I chose to be baptized for the right reason, but I have strayed from God? Should I get baptized again?

No. If you stray from God, you don’t need to be baptized again. Just start living your life with Jesus again. Include God in your life.

What if a person believes in Jesus, but refuses to be baptized?

There is no account of anyone in the Bible who believed and placed their faith in Jesus and refused to be baptized by immersion. Looking at all of the examples found in the Bible, we can see that baptism is an important and meaningful part in the life of a follower of Jesus.

When should I be baptized?

As soon as you have believed!

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. Acts 2:41

What should I wear when I am baptized?

You should wear shorts and a T-shirt; something that will be modest when wet. Bring a change of clothes, a towel and a plastic bag to carry your wet clothes in.