

WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN? The Bible presents baptism as an outward sign of faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. Christian baptism is an act of obedience to the command of Jesus, declaring the believer's faith in and identification with their crucified, buried, and risen Savior. Baptism is a visible sermon of the gospel of Jesus Christ, identifying the Christian with his death, burial, and resurrection ([Matt. 28:19–20](#); [Rom. 6:1–11](#); [1 Cor. 12:13](#); [Col. 2:12](#)).

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED? The New Testament consistently demonstrates that those who are baptized are people who have put their trust in Jesus and turned from sin. Baptism is reserved solely for those who have received Jesus as their Lord and Savior. In addition, Jesus commanded that all Christians should be baptized ([Matt. 28:19](#)). His apostles also commanded that all Christians be baptized ([Acts 2:38](#)).

HOW IS SOMEONE BAPTIZED? In the New Testament, the Greek word for baptism is "*baptizo*," which means "to plunge, dip, or immerse in water." For example, in ancient Greek, this word was used to explain things such as the sinking of a ship submerged in water. In baptism, the believer is immersed beneath the water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We baptize Christians in the same way as Jesus: immersed in water and brought up out of the water ([Mark 1:10](#); [Acts 8:34–39](#)).

WHAT TO EXPECT

During the baptism, you will be asked two questions (brief answers are provided in italics, but you can answer in your own words):

1. Do you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

Yes.

2. Why do you want to be baptized today?

Jesus has saved me and I want to obey him and follow him with my life.

Then, we'll baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. You'll sit in the tank on two cinder blocks. We will have you hold your left wrist with your right hand. This allows the person baptizing you to hold onto your left arm and place their right hand on your back to keep you steady. Finally, hold your breath or plug your nose while we lean you back, submerging you and bringing you back up in joyful celebration! *Try not to tense up and raise your feet.

WHAT TO BRING

- We suggest wearing dark-colored shorts and a T-shirt.
- Bring a change of clothes, a towel, and a bag for your wet clothes.
- Invite family and friends to witness the celebration of your obedience to Jesus!

Please get in touch with the church office if you have any questions or want more information.