

WATER BAPTISM

Water Baptism is an important act of obedience for every Christian immediately after they receive Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. Water Baptism is a declaration to the entire world that you have received Christ as Savior and Lord. It is a powerful experience. In the scriptures, every time a Christian gave their life to Christ, they were immediately baptized (with the exception of the thief on the cross next to Jesus).

Acts 2:38 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 8:12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized both men and women.

Acts 2:41, 8:36-37, 9:18, 16:15, 16:33, 18:8, 19:5

QUESTIONS!

1. Why is it important that I go under the water when being baptized?

The word Baptism in the original Greek language meant to immerse. Also, the scriptures indicate that my going under the water in baptism declares to the world that I have died to running my own life and my coming back up from under the water proclaims to the world that the resurrection power of Jesus Christ is now alive in me.

Colossians 2:12 ...having been buried with Him in baptism and raised with Him through your faith in the power of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Romans 6:3-4 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.

2. If I was baptized as an infant, do I need to be baptized again?

Baptizing infants was a practice that originated from Hannah with her baby boy Samuel in 1st Samuel 1, when she dedicated him to the Lord. Dedicating a baby to the Lord as an infant is a beautiful and meaningful ceremony. It is a time of asking God to guide and protect the child. However, it is very important for each person to make a personal decision to be water baptized as a declaration to the world that they have personally received Jesus as their Savior. This is why the scriptures indicate that it was after a decision for Christ that the person was Water Baptized.

Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 3:3, Acts 10:47, Galatians 3:27, 1st Peter 3:21

3. If I have re-dedicated my life to Christ is it a good idea to get re-baptized?

Generally Yes! There are many people who move from a state of being unsure to very sure that they are ready to follow Christ and they declare this through being re-baptized.

4. How old does a child have to be to understand how to be a Christian and to be water baptized?

The child has to be old enough to understand that: they are a sinner, that Christ died for their sins and that by receiving Jesus free gift of eternal life they are going to Heaven.

For some children this happens as young as 3-4 yrs old. Whenever you are unsure, it is important to believe the child if they say they are ready to receive Jesus as Savior.

Acts 22:16 And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on His name.