



BAPTISM FAQ'S

WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

God's grace extends to all people—young and old. Jesus commanded baptism, joining us to his victory over death and the new life he won on the cross. Baptism is a powerful promise and reminder that God washes away our sins, fills us with the Holy Spirit and makes us a part of His family forever.

Jesus commanded it.

Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age. --Matthew 28:19-20

God promises you new life in baptism.

By our baptism then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead... so also we may live a new life! --Romans 6:4

It joins you into God's family.

For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. --Galatians 3:26-28

God promises forgiveness and a changed life.

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

DO I NEED TO BE BAPTIZED AGAIN?

No, we recognize all Christian baptisms and trust God's promises for a lifetime. If you have been baptized but wish to publically reaffirm your confidence in Christ, we would love to pray for you (and celebrate with you) at our Baptism Bash as you follow Jesus today. Many who were baptized as a child and returned to Christ as an adult find this a powerful way to celebrate what God is now doing in their life.

You don't need to be baptized a 2nd or 3rd time. God's promises the 1st time hold true!

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. --Ephesians 4:4-6

You are invited to "reaffirm" your faith if you wish! It's a way to publicly celebrate God's faithfulness and your desire to follow Him today.

...if we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself. --2 Timothy 2:13

DOES SUMMIT DO BAPTISMS BY IMMERSION OR SPRINKLING?

We do it both ways; the mode doesn't matter. It's about water and the word.

...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 5:26-27

WHAT IF I'M NOT SURE I WAS BAPTIZED?

Go ahead and get baptized. Be confident about God's promise for you in Christ.

*For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ.
--Colossians 2:12*

DO YOU BAPTIZE BABIES AND YOUNG CHILDREN?

Because we believe God makes promises in baptism, we encourage parents to have their children baptized. It reflects the fact that Jesus taught that very young children have the God-given ability to believe. *"Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it".* (Luke 18:17)

Yes. We believe baptism is a free gift, commanded for God's "kids" of all ages.

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. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call. --Acts 2:38-39

Entire families were baptized in the Bible, so we encourage it as well.

They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family. --Acts 16:31-34

We do believe that as children grow, they must make a public profession of their faith. We actively encourage kids to do so as they take communion and participate in our student ministry. We want everyone to take ownership of their faith and grow personally as a believer, follower and leader for Jesus.

WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

If you are an adult or older student, you should be baptized as soon as you believe.

"Then Philip began with the scripture and told him the Good News about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water, and the man said, 'Look, here is water! Why shouldn't I be baptized right now?'

Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' The man answered, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." So they went down into the water and Philip baptized him." --Acts 8:35-38

There is no reason to delay. As soon as you have put your faith in Christ, you can and should be baptized. If you wait until you are "perfect", you'll never feel "good enough." Remember that a new life with God is not something we earn... it is a free gift!

CAN MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS BE BAPTIZED TOGETHER?

Yes! We love seeing parents and kids get connected together into God's family.

*...he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.
--Titus 3:5-7*

Yes! We love seeing friends trust Christ and take that step of faith together.

When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. The old life has passed away and a new life has begun! --2 Corinthians. 5:17