Kid Connections Children's Church Ministry
Pre-Baptism Program
BELIEFS AND VALUES

THE BIBLICAL FOUNDATION FOR BAPTISM

Jesus' Last Supper, the Passover meal He shared with His disciples on the night before He was crucified, is the biblical foundation for the Communion meal celebrated in His honor by Christians all over the world today. With His twelve friends gathered around Him for the traditional Jewish Passover meal, Jesus "took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is My body, given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you'" (Luke 22:19–20).

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Baptism is an outward expression of an inward change that is made when someone accepts Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. It symbolizes an individual's personal confession of sin and acceptance of Christ's forgiveness (Romans 6:4). Baptism does not provide salvation for an individual, but rather serves to identify publicly the individual as a follower of Christ (Romans 6:3-5; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 2:12).

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Anyone who has repented of their sins and received God's gift of salvation should be baptized (Acts 2:41, 8:12, 10:44-46). Once someone professes faith in Jesus Christ for salvation, the Bible says they should proclaim the life change that has occurred – the watching world needs to know.

WHY SHOULD A BELIEVER BE BAPTIZED?

Believers should be baptized because it is an act of obedience to the command of Christ (Matthew 28:19) and because they love the Lord. Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:15).

WHAT DOES BAPTISM ILLUSTRATE?

Baptism is an illustration of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). At the same time, it also illustrates our death to sin and new life in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:4).

HOW IS BAPTISM PERFORMED?

Those who were baptized in the New Testament were immersed or put under water and raised again. Mark 1:5 says people were baptized "in the Jordan River." Mark 1:10 says, "As Jesus came up out of the water." At TPCBC, we follow this biblical example and baptize in a public ceremony in the baptismal pool in the main sanctuary.

DOES TPCBC PRACTICE INFANT BAPTISM?
Baptism is for those who have made a personal decision to trust Christ alone for their salvation. Rather than baptizing infants, Christian parents are encouraged to dedicate their children. This is a ceremony in which parents formally call upon God's blessing for their child and publicly commit to rear him or her in accordance with Scripture.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF COMMUNION?
To commemorate the death of Christ: "This do in remembrance of me." (1 Corinthians 11:25)

WHO CAN TAKE COMMUNION?
The invitation to receive Communion is intended for any follower of Jesus, by which they acknowledge and remember His work on the Cross—the ultimate sacrifice made on our behalf for the forgiveness of the sins of humankind.