

## WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Baptism is the obedient act of a believing Christian publicly professing their personal commitment to Jesus Christ.

This act of obedience symbolizes faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior; the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus.



## WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Baptism symbolizes a number of significant realities:

1. Christ's death and resurrection
2. A disciple's union with Christ in His death and resurrection
3. New life in which a disciple walks
4. Cleansing and washing away of sin



# MARRIAGE RINGS

Both the husband and wife wear rings on their left ring finger to **symbolize** and show that they are sworn to each other in a covenant love relationship to each other. But if they removed the ring, would they no longer be married? Of course! The ring is not the deciding factor of the marriage, it's a **symbol** of a previously made commitment.

So it is with baptism, it's our spiritual wedding ring symbolizing our new-found relationship with Christ.



## TO HELP US UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT BAPTISM, LET'S EXPLORE SOME SIMPLE REALITIES:

- Baptism DOES NOT SAVE YOU
- Baptism DOES NOT give you FORGIVENESS
- Baptism DOES show people you love JESUS
- Baptism DOES show people you BELONG TO A FAMILY





## WHEN ARE WE TO GET BAPTIZED?

“Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this [Scripture](#) he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” Acts 8:35-36

We believe that there is no prescribed time that one must wait in order to be baptized. From the Bible, we see immediate action taken after a person receives Christ, almost if they went hand-in-hand. Unless legitimate reasons are presented, there should not be a long period of time separating the moment of conversion to the act of baptism.



## HOW SHOULD WE BE BAPTIZED?

**We believe Jesus followers are to be baptized by immersion for these reasons:**

1. The Greek word βαπτίζω (baptizo) literally means to plunge, submerge, or immerse. This word was always used in literature to describe an act of total submersion into water.
2. The symbolism of Christ’s death and resurrection is best represented through total submersion. Burial is an act of total coverage, therefore to simulate our “burial” and “resurrection” with Christ, we see immersion as the most fitting process.





## WHO IS SUPPOSED TO BE BAPTIZED?

We believe the Word of God makes clear that only those who have professed Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are those who are to be baptized. There is no supporting evidence that nonbelievers were baptized. We only read accounts of people who have received Christ being baptized.



## READY TO TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP?

**Before you leave, let us know if you are ready to get baptized:**

- Baptism is scheduled for March 9th
- We want you to work on your testimony and you or someone will share it
- A staff member will reach out to you to discuss all the details
- We will provide a t-shirt and towel

If you are not ready, that's fine, let's keep talking!