

BAPTISM

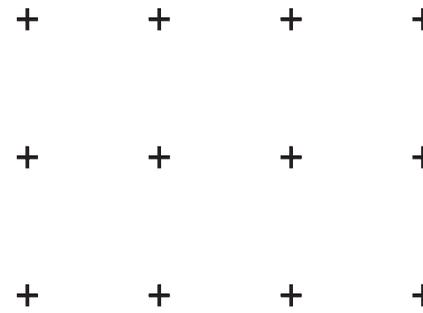
A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS + PARENTS



family weekend

STAFF

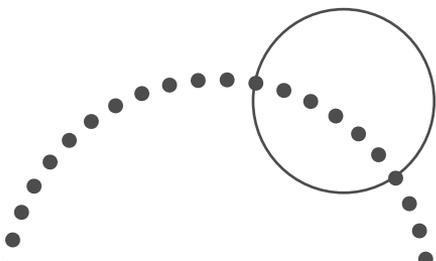
CONGRATS!



“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:19

Congratulations on your decision to take your next step of Baptism! We are so excited for you, and we cannot wait to walk alongside you through this process.



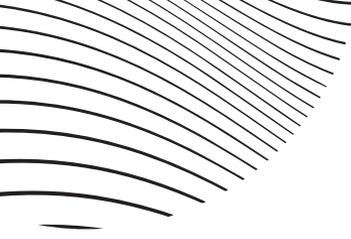
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Everyone who puts their faith in Christ! Anyone who confesses with their mouth and believes in their hearts that Jesus is Lord should be baptized. **What does the Bible say?** Jesus told us to baptize his disciples (followers) “And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you...’” Matthew 28:18-20

DOES A PERSON HAVE TO BE BAPTIZED TO BE SAVED?

Nope! Although there is no excuse not to be baptized, nothing can be added to faith as the one saving act. Faith in Christ alone saves us. Anything else is called “works based righteousness,” and that is not how salvation works – it is in faith alone! **So why do we baptize?** It’s an outward sign on an inward commitment of faith. “When they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip...” Acts 8:12



SALVATION

You've probably heard that God loves you before or that he cares about you, but do you really know how much?

His love for you is so great that he decided to make it possible for you to be with Him in Heaven forever through the free gift of salvation. The good news about Salvation is that it isn't something you can buy, work for, or earn. Salvation is a gift from God. Ephesians 2:8 says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8. God has already done everything needed for you to have salvation.

LISTEN TO THIS: When Jesus died on the cross, that's when the great price was paid for your salvation. You could never be too far gone for the love and the grace of Jesus. He just wants to know you and your heart, and no good works could ever repay God for the price he paid, so you could have everlasting life and forgiveness of your sins.

If you have prayed to ask Jesus to be your savior because you believe He lived and died to save you from sin – you have salvation. Romans 6:23 says, "The gift of God that is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

If you have not asked the Lord to be the savior of your life, you can invite Him into your heart right now. You could pray a prayer like this one:

Dear God, I am a sinner and I need You to save me. I believe that Your Son, Jesus Christ, died for my sins, was resurrected from the dead, is alive, and hears my prayer. I ask You to become the Lord of my life. Amen.

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BAPTISM

Baptism by water is done after salvation as an outward sign of the inward transformation a person has undergone. It is symbolic of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection and now our identification with Him and placement into the family of God. It has been a normal practice of believers from the beginning of the Church in the book of Acts.

Jesus set the example of what it looks like to be baptized. We can see in Matthew where He was baptized in the Jordan River. "Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Matthew 3:13-17

SOUND IT OUT

B - Baptism cannot get you to heaven. We can only get to heaven through our faith in Jesus. Read Ephesians 2:8–9.

A - Act of obedience. Matthew 28:18–20 tells us to obey all the commands that Jesus gave us.

P - Picture of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. Read Colossians 2:12 for the big picture.

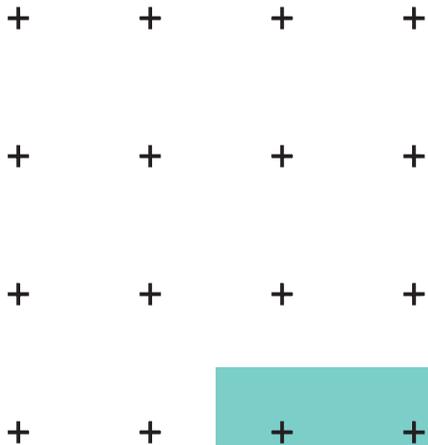
T - Those who believe in Christ. Only those who have asked Christ into their life need to be baptized. Read Mark 16:16.

I - Identifies you with Christ. According to Romans 6:4, we are connected with Christ when we are baptized.

S - Symbol of belief. When we are baptized, we represent Christ dying, being buried, and then being raised from the dead on the third day when we go under the water and come back up again. Read 1 Corinthians 15:3–4.

M - Must be underwater. God was pleased with Jesus' baptism. He showed His Son how much He loved Him when Jesus came up out of the water. It is described in Matthew 3:16–17.

REMEMBER: The only way to Heaven is to believe that Jesus died on the cross for your sins. Hold tight to this truth. God loves you so much that He gave His only Son. The love He has for you is the strongest love you will ever know, and it has no end! Baptism is our way to celebrate His incredible love for us as we begin our new life with Him.



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