



## Baptism FAQ Page

### WHAT IS BAPTISM?

- **An expression of faith:** Baptism does not make you a follower of Jesus. It's an expression of your faith and commitment to Him. Every example we see in the Bible shows a person first coming to believe in Jesus and then being baptized as an expression of that belief.
- **An identification:** Baptism is how followers of Jesus are identified. See [Matthew 28:19 \(NIV\)](#).
- **A lifelong commitment:** The Bible makes it clear that baptism is part of our commitment to Jesus.

### WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

As soon as you have decided to follow Jesus with your life. See [Acts 8:35-38](#).

### WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Every person mature enough to make a personal decision to follow Jesus should be baptized. Passages such as [Acts 2:41](#), [8:12](#), and [10:47-48](#) make it clear that baptism follows a person's decision to trust in Jesus for salvation.

### AM I READY FOR THIS?

Baptism is for someone who has made a decision to follow Jesus with his or her life. They realize that sin separates them from God and that only Jesus' death on the cross can bridge the gap between them and God. If you have come to that point in your spiritual journey, then you are ready to be baptized. It's your way of demonstrating the internal miracle to the outside world.

### WHY BE BAPTIZED?

- **Following Jesus' example.** [Mark 1:9 \(NIV\)](#) and [Matthew 28:19 \(NIV\)](#)
- **Demonstrating your faith.** [Acts 18:8 \(NIV\)](#)

### HOW ARE WE TO BE BAPTIZED?

The word baptize literally means, "to dip or immerse in water," and we see that every baptism in the Bible was by immersion underwater. Even Jesus was baptized. We

believe baptism by immersion is the best way to illustrate a burial and resurrection. See [Matthew 3:16a \(NIV\)](#) and [Acts 8:38-39 \(NIV\)](#).

## WHAT ABOUT INFANT BAPTISM?

In the Bible, parents often brought their children to Jesus. He held them, prayed for them, and blessed them. The New Testament only records the baptisms of adult believers. Baptism is for those who have made a personal decision to trust Jesus alone for salvation. Parents will often baptize a baby or child intending that their child will one day become a follower of Jesus. If you were baptized as a child, then your baptism as an adult can be viewed as the fulfillment of your parent's wishes. In no way does it renounce your baptism as a child.