

Baptism

Going Public With Your Faith

Jesus answered, "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6 (NIV)

Q: WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

A: Everyone who has professed Jesus Christ as THE ONE who saves them from their sin through His death on the cross and resurrection.

Romans 10: 9 -10

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Because we understand scripture to teach that it is only professing believers who are called to be baptized, we do not practice infant baptism.

Q: WHAT DOES BAPTISM SYMBOLIZE?

A: It is an outward symbol of an inward commitment to Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, and a symbol of our being cleansed of our sin and raised to new life in Christ.

Romans 6: 3-5

³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Regardless of how long ago you came to faith in Christ, baptism isn't just for new believers — it's never too late to be baptized!

Q: IS IT NECESSARY FOR SALVATION?

A: Baptism is not necessary for salvation, but we do see it modeled for us in the book of Acts as Peter instructed them as they received his message of salvation in Christ.

Acts 2: 38-41

³⁸ Peter replied, "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. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Q: CAN I BE RE-BAPTIZED?

A: Scripture does not address the issue of being baptized more than one time. Because it is not clear either way, if you believe you are being called to be re-baptized, we feel you should be obedient to what the Holy Spirit is directing you to do.

Matthew 28: 19-20

¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."