

# Baptism



## Why Baptism is so important

The Lord Jesus Christ left only two ordinances for all Christians to keep **Communion and Water Baptism**.

This booklet is designed to answer the **Who? When? How? and Why?** of Water Baptism.

Please read this and look up the scriptures. If you would like to honour God by being Water Baptised let your home group leader, an Elder or a Pastor know.

# Who Should Be Baptized?

**Acts 2:41** “Those who accepted His message were baptised.”

**Acts 16:14-15** “A woman...the Lord opened her heart...she was baptised.”

Question: What are two important requirements that Jesus expects of people before they are baptised?

**Acts 20:21** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 2:38** \_\_\_\_\_

N.B. Because Baptism is part of the salvation process, children who believe should be baptised when they are old enough to confess their faith.

# When Should A Person Be Baptised?

**Acts 8:36** “Look here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptised?”

**Acts 16:33** “then immediately he...was baptised.”

Question: After you confess your belief in Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, do you think there should be any delay before obeying Him by being baptized in water.

**Acts 16:31-33** \_\_\_\_\_

N.B. Baptism should be our first act of faith. In the New Testament Church there was no such thing as an un-baptised (by immersion) believer. The word to baptise comes from the core word “baptiso” which means to plunge, dunk or immerse.

# How Should A Person Be Baptised?

**Acts 8:38** “Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water.”

**Matt 3:16** “As soon as Jesus was baptised, He went up out of the water.”

Question: Would infant sprinkling (baptism) be a valid form of baptism, and if not, what would be the reason?

**Luke 2:22/23** \_\_\_\_\_

**Luke 3:21/22** \_\_\_\_\_

N.B. Christening is not biblical baptism, however prayers given at this time are very effective.

## Why Be Baptised?

**Out of Conviction 1 Peter 3:21**

“Baptism...(is) the pledge of a good conscience toward God.”

**In Obedience Acts 2:38**

“Repent and be baptised every one of you...”

**As Part of Salvation Mark 16:16**

“Anyone who believes in me and is baptised will be saved.”

**For Cleansing Ephesians 5:26**

“He made the church holy by the power of His word, and He made it pure by washing it with water.”

**As A Dedication Romans 6:11**

“In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”

Question: In the light of **Romans 6:1-11** please state, in your own words, why you want to be baptised. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Baptism - A Death**

One of the most powerful results of Water Baptism is that it establishes a definite point at which we “close the door” on the old way of life we led before we became a Christian.

What are you closing the door on?

## **Baptism - A Resurrection**

Coming out of the water symbolises a heartfelt commitment to lead a righteous and victorious new life in Christ which is made possible for us only by the presence and through the power of God’s Holy Spirit.

What are you looking forward to in your life with God?

## **What Happens At Your Baptism**

When you are baptised you will be asked simple questions like: “Have you decided to die to the old way of life where you were boss; to leave that behind today and be raised to a new life with Jesus as your daily leader?”

You will answer **Yes**, and/or give a short testimony.

If you have a favourite song you would like us to sing, please let us know.

