

I Want To Know More About

# Water Baptism



**Information & Application for Kids**

# Water Baptism

Baptism is a symbol. A symbol of something we do on the outside that shows what has happened in our heart.

Water is used for cleaning things. We baptize in water to show our sins have been washed away. When we are put under the water it is a symbol of our sins being left behind us or buried. When we come out of the water, it shows everyone that we are a **new person**. We can see a good example of this in the butterfly. It starts as a lumpy caterpillar that builds a cocoon and then comes out a graceful butterfly; the change is easy to see.

*That is what happened in baptism. When we went under the water, we left the old country of sin behind; when we came up out of the water, we entered into the new country of grace – a new life in a new land! That's what baptism into the life of Jesus means. When we are lowered into the water, it is like the burial of Jesus; when we are raised up out of the water, it is like the resurrection of Jesus.*

*-The Message, Romans 6:3-4*

*If anyone belongs to Christ, then he is made new. The old things have gone; everything is made new!*

*-NIV, II Corinthians 5:17*

Taking part in baptism is a time when we **stand up** for God and show we're choosing to live for and obey Jesus. If God is really important to us, we won't be ashamed to tell others about Him and what He has done for us.

*If anyone stands before other people and says he believes in Me, then I will say that he belongs to Me.*

*-NIV, Matthew 10:32*

Water baptism is vital to those who desire to be completely obedient to Jesus Christ. We desire to be baptized in water because Jesus asks that we do this. Water baptism is not something we do because friends are doing it or because it looks kind of fun. We are **baptized out of love and obedience to Jesus**.

*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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.*

*-NIV, Matthew 29:19-20*

## You Must Be A Christ-Follower

In Jesus' day, water baptism was a common practice. It always signaled a turning point in a person's life. It was a sign of a change of heart, cleansing from the wrong things we have done, or turning from one way of life to a new way of living.

John the Baptist baptized many people at the Jordan River. He encouraged people to repent, which is to turn from the wrong things they were doing. Jesus was baptized by John.

Baptism is a sign or **testimony** to the world that you have made a decision, a decision to accept and live for Jesus. He changes our hearts and lives. Being baptized is a way to show everybody that this change has happened in your life.

Baptism does not make you a Christian. Believing and accepting Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord shows you are a Christ-Follower. Baptism is an outward sign of an inward experience.

Baptism does not wash away your sins, only Jesus can do that. We must first repent and ask forgiveness before being baptized.

*Change your life. Turn to God and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, so your sins are forgiven. -The Message, Acts 2:38*

Baptism does not save you (make you a Christ-Follower) or guarantee you a home in heaven. Believing and asking Jesus into your life is the only way to heaven.

Baptism is a sign that you have become a Christ-Follower. Anyone who has not invited Jesus Christ into his life should not be baptized; it serves no purpose.

## What to Expect the day you are Baptized

1. Plan to be a little early to the baptism. \*You should come wearing your dark (non see through) clothes. Don't forget a **towel & a change of clothes**.
2. The people baptizing you often will ask you if you've asked Jesus into your heart. They will video record some of your responses to questions you may have answered already on your application.

**Remember:** *Everyone who will watch the video will be very happy about your decision. It makes them excited about Jesus and what He does.*

3. When it is your turn, you will go into the water (one at a time) and meet the people baptizing you. They will pray with you and then say, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." Then you will be quickly dipped in and out of the water. Everybody watching will be celebrating with you!

**Note to Parents:** *Have your child(ren) practice talking about their special story. Refer them to highlights in their baptism application.*

4. Your mother, father, or someone designated should meet you with a towel as you come out of the water.

**\*Note:** *Wear something that will be modest wet or dry. You will receive and be wearing a baptism t-shirt, beyond that swim shorts are perfect.*

If you have any questions, please contact:  
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# Baptism Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

When did you ask Jesus into your heart/life?

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In what ways do you know that you are ready to be baptized?

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How do you personally learn about Jesus?

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In what ways do you show that Jesus is #1 in your life? What things are different about you?

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***Please turn in completed application prior to the baptism.***