



BAPTISM



WHY BE BAPTIZED?

The New Testament speaks of baptism frequently. For example, Romans 6:4-6 tells us,

“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. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we will certainly also be united with Him in a resurrection like His. For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin.” (NIV)

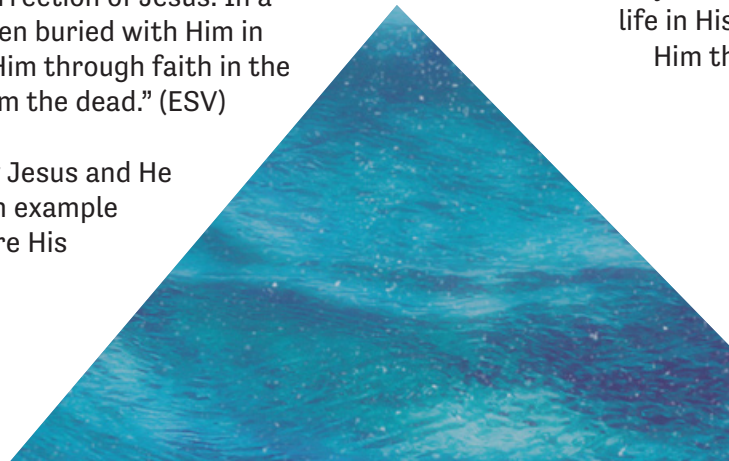
Faith unites us to Jesus and baptism is a public symbol of this new reality in the life of a Christian. When we go under the water we are identifying with the death of Jesus and His burial. We are declaring that our old lives have been put to death and we have been given a new identity as a child of God. When we come up out of the water we are identifying with the resurrection of Jesus. In a similar way, Colossians 2:12 says, “Having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised Him from the dead.” (ESV)

Becoming a Christian is committing to follow Jesus and He was baptized by John the Baptizer, setting an example for us to follow. Jesus was baptized and so are His followers.



WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

We know from the Bible that baptism is the way we can publicly declare that we have become followers of Jesus. Baptism is an outward expression of an inward change. It is an opportunity to show our family, friends and church what God has done for us. There is no hard and fast rule as to the exact time to get baptized, but shortly after you become a believer in Jesus and place your life in His hands is a good time to be obedient to Him through baptism.



WHAT IF I HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED AS A BABY?

At Calvary we have always encouraged parents to bring their young children to be dedicated to the Lord. We make time during a Sunday morning service, when the church agrees to encourage and pray for the child and the parents whenever possible in the years ahead.

We believe that Baptism is a declaration that comes after our decision to follow Jesus. We recognize that a baby or young infant is not capable of making an informed decision about Baptism. Ultimately, we each have to make this decision for ourselves: firstly, to follow Jesus; and secondly, to be baptized.

So if you believe that Jesus died for your sins and rose from the dead, and if you have a testimony about knowing Jesus and a desire to follow Him, but you have not yet been baptized – NOW is the time!

Inside this brochure you will find some questions we would like you to answer. In addition, we would love for you to tell us something about how you came to believe in Jesus. When you have read this brochure and completed the necessary information, we can set up a time to meet with you informally, and then we can arrange a date for your baptism.



CALVARY

BAPTIST CHURCH

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