



Baptism Application

Please **PRINT** neatly in ink. Then return completed application to the Resource Table.

Step 1 - Fill out this Baptism Application:

Complete the application and use the accompanying worksheet to draft your testimony. Be sure all parts of the application are complete, and follow the "Instructions for Testimony Construction"

Step 2 - Return Application & Review:

Return the completed application to the Resource Table on any Sunday. A meeting will then be scheduled with the pastor to talk through your testimony and understanding of baptism.

Step 3 - Be Baptized:

Baptisms are typically done either in the ocean or a community pool on the first Sunday of the month. When your date is scheduled, you must bring appropriate clothing (bathing suit, t-shirt, towel) and most importantly, your one-page testimony.

Mr. Mrs. Miss

Today's Date: _____

NAME: _____

Date of Birth: _____

PRIMARY ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: (H) _____ (W) _____ [C] _____

SECONDARY ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Do you have any physical disabilities? Yes No If yes, please explain.

Are you absolutely certain of your salvation? Yes No I have questions.

Have you been baptized before? Yes No If yes, please explain when and where.

What is the significance of baptism?

What We Believe about Baptism

The Motive for Baptism: Baptism is a command of the Lord.

- The Lord's Command—*"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."* (Matt. 28:19). Jesus' word is sufficient warrant for the baptism of believers.
- The Practice of the Early Church—This reveals the application of the Lord's words by those who heard Him speak. We read concerning the converts on the Day of Pentecost: *"So then, those who had received his word were baptized."* (Acts 2:41) Further examples of apostolic practice: Acts 8:33-38; Acts 10:44-48; 16:31-33; 18:8.

The Mandate for Baptism: Baptism is for Christians alone.

- Disciples—The evangelist was commanded to *"make disciples of all nations, baptizing them ..."* (Matt. 28:18).

- Believers—*"Those who had received his word were baptized"* (Acts 2:41). The eunuch confessed his faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Philip baptized him (Acts 8:30-38). The jailor at Philippi *"he and all his household... and rejoiced greatly, having believed in God with his whole household"* (Acts 16:33, 34).
- Receivers of the Holy Spirit—While Peter was preaching to Cornelius, *"the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message."* Peter then inquired, *"Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"* He then commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. (Acts 10:44-48).

Note: We conclude that baptism is limited to disciples, believers, or those who have received the Holy Spirit. These different designations label the same people- namely, Christians. Therefore, all who have been baptized before conversion must be baptized again, since baptism is a post-conversion act of obedience.

The Message of Baptism: Baptism is a method of identification.

- Identification with Christ— This identification is with His death, burial, and resurrection. Paul asked, *"Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life"* (Romans 6:3,4).
- Identification with the Church— *"So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls"* (Acts 2:41).

The Method for Baptism: Baptism is by immersion in water.

- The Meaning—The meaning of "baptize" is to completely immerse something. It is evident that submerging one in the water and lifting them from it should be the method of baptism, as it gives the most vivid picture of salvation (Rom. 6:3-4).
- The Example— The examples of baptism recorded in Scripture imply immersion (Mark 1:10; Matt. 3:16; Acts 8:38-39).

Instructions for Testimony Construction

On the following sheet of paper, write out four aspects of your testimony:

1. A clear description of what you were before Christ saved you. This should be one paragraph in length.
2. A clear description of the events of your conversion. Give your testimony without a salvation doctrine discourse.

