

NEW BELIEVER · NEXT STEPS

Understanding Baptism.

"We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead, we too might walk in newness of life."

ROMANS 6:4 · ESV

START HERE

What baptism actually is.

If you've given your life to Jesus, baptism is your next step — and it's one of the most joyful ones you'll ever take. But a lot of people aren't quite sure what it means. So let's keep it simple.

Baptism is a picture. Going down into the water represents dying to your old life and being buried with Christ. Coming up out of the water represents being raised with Him into a brand-new life. It's a physical, public way of saying out loud what God has already done on the inside.

It doesn't make you a Christian — faith in Jesus does that. Baptism is how you celebrate and declare it. Jesus Himself was baptized, and He told His followers to be baptized too. So when you take this step, you're simply doing what He did and what He asked.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

MATTHEW 28:19 · ESV

THE HEART OF IT

Four things to know about it.

01 **It's a picture, not a payment.**

Baptism doesn't save you and it doesn't earn you anything. It points to a salvation you've already received as a free gift through faith in Jesus.

EPHESIANS 2:8–9

02 **It's an act of obedience.**

Jesus commanded it, and He modeled it by being baptized Himself. Following Him includes this simple, glad act of obedience.

MATTHEW 3:13–17

03 **It's a public declaration.**

Baptism takes a private faith public. In front of family, friends, and the church, you're saying: I belong to Jesus now.

ROMANS 10:9–10

04 **It follows belief.**

Throughout Scripture, baptism comes after a person decides to follow Jesus. That's why we baptize those who can personally profess their faith.

ACTS 2:41

HONEST QUESTIONS

A few things people ask.

Do I have to be baptized to be saved?

No. Salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus alone — the thief on the cross was never baptized, and Jesus told him he'd be in paradise. Baptism is the joyful, obedient response to being saved, not the thing that saves you.

I was baptized as a baby. Should I be baptized again?

We practice believer's baptism — baptism that follows your own personal decision to trust Jesus. If you came to faith later, we'd lovingly encourage you to be baptized now as a believer. It's not erasing anything; it's you owning the decision for yourself.

I'm nervous about being in front of people. Is that normal?

Completely. Most people are. Remember, it's a celebration — the room is full of people cheering for you, not judging you. And you won't be alone for a second of it.

What does it look like here at The Church?

You'll share a sentence or two of your story, we'll baptize you by immersion, and the whole church gets to celebrate with you. Simple and joyful.

YOUR NEXT STEP

How to take the plunge.

Ready, or close to it? Here's all it takes.

1

Tell us.

Let us know you'd like to be baptized — email us or grab anyone on the team on a Sunday.

Try this: Email connect@valiantchurch.com.

2

Share your story.

We'll help you put a few sentences together about how you came to follow Jesus. Nothing fancy — just your story.

3

Get baptized.

We'll set a date and celebrate with the whole church family. That's it.

TAKE A MINUTE

What's holding you back from taking this step — and is it a real reason or just a nervous one?

WE'D LOVE TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU

Let's set a date.

Baptism is a party, not a performance. Whenever you're ready, we're ready — reach out and let's take this step together.

TELL US

connect@valiantchurch.com

GATHER

Sundays · 10:00 AM

FIND US

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