Baptism

AN OUTWARD EXPRESSION OF AN INWARD CHANGE

FAITHBIBLECHURCH

What is Baptism?

Baptism is a visible, public profession of a person's faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Baptism doesn't make you a follower of Jesus, but it publicly identifies you as one. It is an outward expression of an inward change.

"For by **grace** you have been saved **through faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV)

Baptism is a living picture of our new life as a follower of Jesus and represents our union with Him in His death, burial, and resurrection.

"We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." (Romans 6:4 ESV)

Why be Baptized?

We also follow Christ's example when we are baptized.

"In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan." (Mark 1:9 ESV)

If you profess Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, God wants you to be baptized.

Being baptized is an act of obedience to the commands given by Jesus Christ. In the book of Acts, the very first step of expressing a desire to follow Jesus is baptism. And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38 ESV)

So those who received His word were baptized and there were added that day about three thousand souls. (Acts 2:41 ESV)

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19 ESV)

Why Baptism by Immersion?

The word baptism means to "immerse" or "dip". The New Testament indicates that the practice of baptism was done by immersion and Jesus was also immersed in the water for His baptism (Matthew 3:16, Mark 1:9). We believe immersion best symbolizes Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection.

"In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 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." (Colossians 2:11-12 ESV)

How to Proceed

If you profess faith in Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior and have never been baptized, we'd love to talk with you. You can talk to one of our pastors or elders, or contact our church office: 402-484-6020 or office@fbclnk.org.

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6201 S. 84th Street • Lincoln, NE 68516 www.faithbiblelincoln.org