



Baptism

Public declaration of faith in Jesus Christ

Our Guide

This guide exists to help every new believer who has accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, better understand their next step of faith in water baptism.

Our Why

We believe that everyone should be in active pursuit of Jesus no matter the age or stage of life. After giving one's life to Christ, the next pursuit of Christlikeness is water baptism.

Our Goal

Our goal is to guide and nurture every person through the water baptism process. Our prayer is that you connect with God in a way that is undeniable and experience joy that only comes in the Lord.

Your Next Steps

01 What is Salvation?

02 What is Baptism?

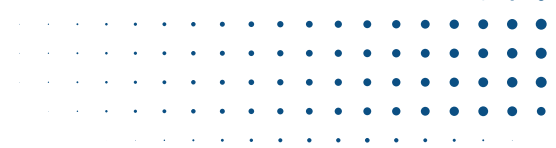
03 Who Should Be Baptized?

04 When Should I Be Baptized?

05 Why Be Baptized?

06 How Are We Baptized?

07 What's Next?



01 What is Salvation?

Before we talk about baptism, we need to talk about salvation. Baptism is a response to something that has already happened in your heart.

What is Salvation? Why do we need it?

We believe that salvation is a free gift of God that comes by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. Humans are fallen beings completely dead in their sin and unable to save themselves. One achieves salvation at the moment they put their faith in Christ believing that He died upon the cross as a sinless substitute for sinners of all ages and times and was raised from the dead. Only those who respond to God's gift of grace through Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection are justified and will inherit eternal salvation. Upon a confession of faith in Christ, humans are regenerated through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit becoming new creations in Christ and put their faith into action through sanctification. (Mark 10:45; Luke 19:10; John 1:12; 3:16; 10:28-29; 14:6; Acts 2:21; 4:12; Romans 1:16-17; 5:1, 8-9, 15-17; 6:23; 8:2, 9-11, 38-39; 10:9-13; 1 Corinthians 6:20; 2 Corinthians 1:9-10; 5:17; Galatians 2:16, 20; Ephesians 2:1-9; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 2:13; 2 Timothy 1:9; Titus 3:5; Hebrews 6:11; 7:25; 9:28; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:3-5)

The Gospel Response

Repent & Believe (Mark 1:15; Romans 10:9-13)

The GOOD NEWS is only good if we move beyond hearing it to professing it with our mouth and believing it in our heart. **We must confess our sinful brokenness and stop trusting ourselves but trust in God alone. We must ask forgiveness and receive new life in Christ then follow Him daily.** This response helps us discover and live our true purpose in life: to know God and make God known.

02 What is Baptism?

Have you placed your faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? If so, Baptism is our next step!

Baptism is a public profession of Jesus as our Savior & Lord before the Church. It is the immediate Next Step after Salvation. It does not save us; however, it does allow us to spiritually identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

03 Who Should Be Baptized?

The biblical answer is simple: **Believers**. Those who have trusted Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins and have received Him as Lord. (Acts 2:21; 8:12)

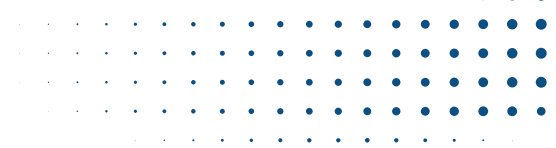
04 When Should I Be Baptized?

Scripture does not encourage delay. The early church modeled immediate obedience; people were baptized the same day they believed. (Acts 8:35-39)

05 Why Be Baptized?

There are 4 reasons why you should be baptized:

1. To OBEY Christ's Command
2. To PUBLICLY PROFESS Faith in Christ
3. To COMMIT to Christ's People
4. To MODEL Jesus baptism demonstrating His own obedience, humility, and the filling of the Holy Spirit



06 How Are We Baptized?

What is Believer's Baptism?

Believer's Baptism is both a symbolic and vital step of obedience in professing our conversion and new life in Jesus Christ, which He also commands us to do. **We hold that Baptism, which is the ceremonial process of being dipped into water during a time of worship before the whole church body, is a beautiful sign and symbol of Christ's own death, burial, and resurrection.** When we are each baptized, symbolically we also are being "buried" into the water and then raised out of the water which symbolizes our "resurrection" to new life in Jesus Christ. We baptize individuals who can articulate their conversion experience. (Matthew 3:6, 13-17; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; 12:8; Acts 2:38-41; 8:35-38; 10:47-48; 22:16; Romans 6:4-11; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21; 1 John 2:3)

Moreover, the word "Baptize" means to dip, immerse, sink, or plunge. The ancient Greek Word "Baptizo" cannot mean to pour-out/over or to sprinkle. The Bible nowhere uses pour/sprinkle as a mode of baptism. **Baptize is always used in the New Testament as being "immersed" or dunked.**

We affirm the biblical teaching that only professed Believers, (i.e. those who are old enough to profess that they have had a conversion experience and have given their lives fully to Jesus Christ for salvation) – should be baptized. AFTER, we have received Christ as Savior, we are called to publicly identify with other Believers within the Church that Jesus has saved us. The symbolic act of baptism declares publicly that we desire to walk in obedience with Him. Therefore, the act of Believer's Baptism is commanded in Scripture for all believers, is a symbolic act for our spiritual resurrection and identification with Christ's baptism, and is a beautiful public profession that we stand with other Believers of all ages as born-again followers of Christ.

07 What's Next?

Quick Overview:

WHAT

A public symbol of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. Your declaration that you are a new creation. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

WHO

Those who **believe** in Jesus Christ. Salvation comes first, and baptism follows. (Acts 2:41)

WHEN

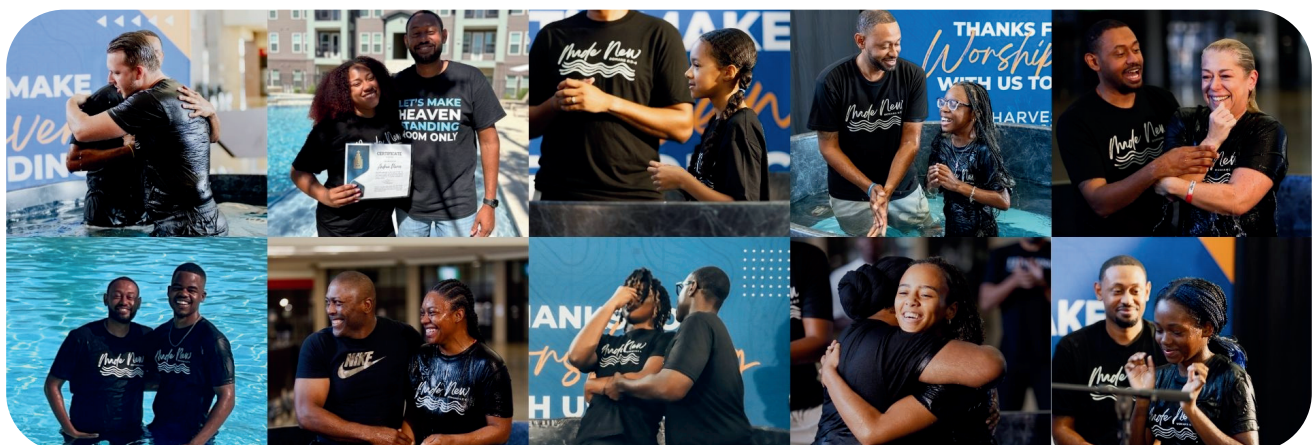
As soon as possible after placing faith in Christ. Scripture models immediate obedience. (Acts 8:35-39)

WHY

Obedience to Jesus. It is a command and keeping His commands is love in action. (Matthew 28:19-20)

HOW

By full water immersion. Going completely under and coming up, mirroring death, burial, and resurrection. (Mark 1:9-11)



07 What's Next?

Baptism is one of the greatest moments in a believer's life, and we want to be right there with you. Whether you are ready to say "YES" today or still have questions, we are here to walk with you. If you're ready, here is the baptism process looks like at Harvest Ministries:

Step 1: Let us know you want to be baptized

Take your Next Step through one of the following:

- Let church leadership know
- Visit harvestministries.org/following-jesus
- Text "BAPTISM" to 80797



Step 2: Attend a Baptism class

You'll meet with one of our pastors or leaders and share your story of salvation. They will answer any questions you may have and walk you through the details that will happen the day you are baptized.

Step 3: Be baptized in a public service

This will take place during a public service surrounded by your loved ones and church family as we all celebrate this spiritual milestone!





HARVEST
MINISTRIES

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