

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.—II Corinthians 5:17



WATER BAPTISM

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Here's a checklist for you:

- Invite your family and friends to come. This is a special moment in your journey; you will want to share it with the people closest to you.
- Dress modestly. Avoid clothing that may be too revealing when it becomes wet. (Plus, bring a change of dry clothes)
- Bring a towel to dry off with after the baptism.
- Bring a camera if you like.
- Notify the pastor baptizing you if you have any concerns about your health.
- Be ready to pinch your nose to keep water out.

Special Circumstances:

If you have any concerns or situations that may need special consideration, please let us know. We will do our best to accommodate you.

Who?

Everyone who has made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord can be baptized. We don't baptize babies because they cannot make a profession of faith yet. For children under six years of age we have a **baby/child dedication** where we lay hands on them and pray for their growth, nurturing and protection. You can call the church for more details at... **888.389.6062**.

You are not baptized to GET SAVED; You are baptized because YOU ARE SAVED!

When?

If you've recently made Jesus Christ your Savior and Lord, you should do it as soon as possible. We have Water Baptisms frequently throughout the year. Some of you may be thinking, "I've already been water baptized." But if you have recently made a new commitment to follow Jesus, now is also the time for you. Don't delay, get into obedience and start living life for God.

Before You Come

Here at Relevant Church Inland Empire Water Baptisms are a celebration of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The pastor, as well as family and friends, come together to witness that the gospel is alive in you. When we meet together at the baptismal waters, we truly witness the wells of salvation that God has provided in the lives of those that have become born-again.

Be sure to visit the **Connection Corner** and fill out a Water Baptism Registration Card and attend the **Baptism Orientation Class** prior to being baptized (**This class is required for Baptismal Candidates**). We look forward to seeing you there!

“Buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.” – Colossians 2:12

WHY WATER BAPTISM?

1. **Simply because Jesus commanded that believers be water baptized.** Therefore, when you are water baptized you are exhibiting your faith in an act of obedience, commitment, and proclamation.

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

– **Matthew 28:18-20**

2. **Because Jesus was teaching us to follow His example.** He Himself was baptized *not* because He was a sinner, but because he presented the need for righteousness, that is, to have a right relationship with God.

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ And John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered and said to him, “Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed Him.

– **Matthew 3:13-15**

3. **To testify of your salvation.** As a result of your obedience and willingness in water baptism you display, declare and testify as a public witness that Jesus Christ has died for your sins. You are a witness to everyone that Christ lives in you.

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

– **Galatians 2:20**

MEANING OF WATER BAPTISM

Water baptism is symbolic of the salvation God provided through His Son, Jesus Christ, in His death, burial, and resurrection. The Bible teaches us that “by grace you were saved through faith” (Eph 2:8). Therefore, it is Jesus who has washed away all of our sins; He alone is our salvation once we have made Him our Savior and Lord. It is through Water Baptism that we show that we are His followers, His disciples.

Water Baptism is an OUTWARD expression of an INWARD Confession

Think of the picture you are painting of your life through water baptism. As you go down under the water you show that you are dying to your old self symbolically just as Jesus died for you. As you come up out of the water you show that, just as Jesus rose again, you also now walk in newness of life.

³ Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

– **Romans 6:3-4**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How?

The word “Baptize” means to immerse or dip under water. This is how Jesus was baptized; in fact every instance in the New Testament describes people coming up out of the water or being immersed.

³⁷ Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” ³⁸ So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

– **Acts 8:37-38**