

BAPTISM @ Christ's Church of Fountain Hills

I. Why be Baptized?

1. Because Jesus gave us this example and it pleases God the Father.

[Mark 1:9-11](#)

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."



2. Because Christ Commanded it.

[Matthew 28:19-20](#)

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

3. Because it shows you are a believer.

[Acts 18:8](#)

8 Crispus, the synagogue ruler, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized.

II. What is the meaning of baptism?

1. It is a symbol of Christ's burial and resurrection.

[Romans 6:3-4](#)

Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. NIV

[1 Corinthians 15:3-4](#)

3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures..

[Colossians 2:12](#)

... having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

2. It is a symbol of your new life as Christian.

[2 Corinthians 5:17](#)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ

Baptism does not save you, Christ saves you. But, it is an outward symbol of an inward faith. It does not "save" you, only your faith in Christ does that.

[Ephesians 2:8-9](#)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

Jesus Christ is the only one who can save us. He is the one who unites us with God, just as He intended in the beginning of time, as revealed in the Garden of Eden.

[Galatians 3:26-27](#)

You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

III. How are we to be Baptized?

1. Like Jesus was baptized-by being immersed in water.

[Matthew 3:16](#)

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water.

2. Every baptism in the bible was by immersion.

[Acts 8:36-38](#)

36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" 38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

The Greek word "baptizo" means to "immerse" or "dip under water."

3. Baptism by immersion is the best way to picture someone who is following Christ. Being immersed under water and coming up is the best symbolic picture we have of the burial and resurrection of Christ and a person's new life Christ.

[Romans 6:4-7](#)

4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. 5 If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. 6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— 7 because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. NIV

IV. Who should be baptized?

Every person who has made the decision to believe in Christ.

[Acts 2:38-41](#)

38 Peter replied, "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. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off — for all whom the Lord our God will call." 40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." 41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

[Acts 8:12](#)

12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

The one requirement for baptism is belief in Christ. We do not baptize children until they are old enough to understand and believe this personally.

V. When are we to be Baptized?

As soon as you believe and are ready to confess this to the world in Christian Baptism.

FAQ

What about being baptized twice? Our church recommends that you be baptized again if you have not been baptized by immersion since you became a believer. We have no other examples of Baptism in scripture except that of immersion, the same way Jesus was baptized.

Will I have to say anything? Only the response to the question; *“Do you believe that Jesus is the Christ (savior/messiah) and do you accept Him as your Lord and Savior?” (YES)*

Can my family be baptized together? Yes!! If each family member fully understands the meaning of baptism, and each one has personally placed his/her trust in Christ for salvation, we encourage families to be baptized at the same time. It is a wonderful expression of commitment.

God will bless you as you demonstrate your faith in Christ!