

WATER BAPTISM



an outward demonstration
of an inward transformation



For you were buried
with Christ when you
were baptized. And
with him you were
raised to NEW LIFE
because you trusted
the mighty power of
God, who raised
Christ from the dead.
Colossians 2:12



YOU'RE GOING ALL IN!

THE BIG DAY:

What to expect during today's service

Water Baptism Swag Bag

- Baptism Certificate
- Water Baptism Booklet
- New Testament Bible
- Bag for your wet clothes
- Life Water

Water Baptism Procedure

- Participants will change into their baptism clothes directly following the baptism reception
- Once the service begins, participants will line up in alphabetical order (a list will be printed on the wall) near the baptisms tank
- Once your name is called you will step into the tank and a pastor will pray for you and remind you to hold your nose while they gently and quickly dip you underneath the water
- After your baptism, you will change back into dry clothes, clean up and head into the service with your loved ones.
- **REMINDER:** Please place any borrowed towels or shorts inside the hamper (you may keep the NCC shirt)





WHY WATER BAPTISM?

Knowing and understanding what water baptism is and the symbolism behind it, helps believers fully embrace this significant step in their faith.

FOLLOWING CHRIST:

It is important to carefully consider what the Bible says about baptism as even Jesus himself was baptized. He was not a sinner, yet he humbled himself in obedience to identify with us and give us an example to follow.

"At this time, Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. The moment he came out of the water, he saw the sky split open and God's Spirit, looking like a dove, come down on him. Along with the Spirit, a voice: "You are my Son, chosen and marked by my love, pride of my life." Mark 1:9 MSG

AN ACT OF OBEDIENCE

One of the most important reasons to get water baptized is to follow the example of Jesus Christ and obey His commands:

"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." Matthew 28:19-20

A PUBLIC DECLARATION:

Baptism declares that you are a follower of Jesus Christ. It is a public confession of your faith in, and commitment to, Jesus Christ. It is the next step after salvation through repentance and faith and is an important foundation for the Christian life.

"Then he said, "Go into the world. Go everywhere and announce the Message of God's good news to one and all. Whoever believes and is baptized is saved; whoever refuses to believe is damned." Mark 16:16 MSG

WATER BAPTISM

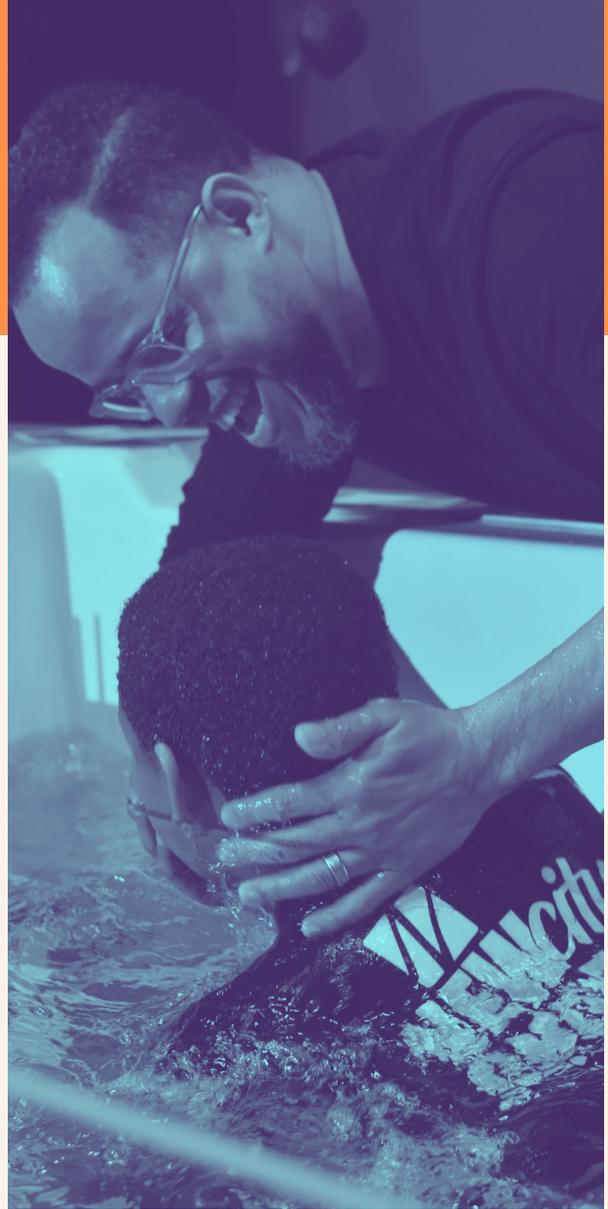
Baptism is the outward expression that symbolizes the inward commitment of coming to and accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

The purpose of baptism is to give a visual testimony of our commitment to Christ. It is the first step of discipleship. Even though Jesus Christ was perfect & without any sin, was obedient to God the Father by being baptized.

For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him, you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.
- Colossians 2:12

The original word for baptism is the Greek "baptidzo". Which literally means to "dip" or to "immerse".

The symbolism of baptism is that, just as Christ died and was buried, the baptized person is submerged under water. And just as Christ rose again from the dead, so the baptized person rises again from beneath the water.



Under the water is the believer's old, dead, heavy, sinful life. Out of the water, cleansed by the blood of Christ, is the believer's new, fresh, purposeful life. Baptism is like a wedding ring. We put on a wedding ring as a symbol of our commitment and devotion. In the same way, baptism is a picture of devotion and commitment to Christ. A wedding ring reminds us and tells others that we belong to someone special. In the same way, baptism reminds us and others that we are devoted to Christ and belong to Him.

Water baptism is the next step after salvation for a Believer. Before we move forward in your decision to be water baptized, we want to ensure you have an understanding of the free gift of salvation Christ offers all of us.

Salvation is a free gift from God. When Jesus laid down His life on the cross, He also bought and paid for the gift of our salvation. When we receive this gift of salvation, we choose to make Jesus Christ our Lord & Savior.

THE RESULTS OF SIN AND GOD'S SOLUTION

The fall of humanity began when Adam and Eve's act of disobeying God in the garden separated us from Him. We became spiritually dead and unable to save ourselves. This can translate into a feeling of emptiness or a hunger that can't be satisfied. The hunger we feel is spiritual hunger. It can only be filled by restoring a relationship with God, our Creator. That restoration comes through faith in Jesus Christ.

We are sinners separated from God by our sin nature. The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death." However, salvation is a free gift from God by faith in His son Jesus Christ.

If you would like to receive God's gift of salvation, pray this

Prayer:

"Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the cross for me. I know that I am a sinner and I repent for my sins. Come into my life and be my Lord and Savior. Today I have been made new. From this day forward, I will follow You. Amen."

NEXT STEPS



BIG IDEA:

Following Jesus isn't easy, but it is simple.

Baptism is a public symbol of our decision to trust and follow Jesus. In a moment, it captures what Jesus did for us, and now we get to see how that plays out in every part of our lives.

Your number one goal from this point forward is to listen to Jesus and do what He says. It's nothing fancy or really complicated, but it's the best way to move forward.



Reading the Bible, connecting to a local church family, and surrounding ourselves with a group of people who also follow Jesus makes a real difference in achieving this goal.

It's a spiritual impossibility to follow Jesus and remain the same. As we listen to Him and do what He says, we will see how it's true that growing people change. The changes aren't from our own ideas or strength, but by the guidance of the Holy Spirit—that's the spirit of God living inside us. He's the one who gives us the power to love and forgive others, to grow in faith, and to say no to sin and yes to Jesus. These kind of qualities will continue to show up more and more in our lives as we seek Jesus.



The truth is we won't have all the answers automatically. Our lives won't instantaneously be cleaned up and easy, but that's not the point—**a relationship with Jesus is the point.**

Our public step in baptism is just the beginning of the changes God will bring us through.

Remember: Water baptism is an outward demonstration of an inward transforma

THANK YOU.

For going ALL IN with your faith in Jesus Christ.

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