

Baptism Primer

Solid Rock Church

Following Jesus is not a one-time decision, but a lifelong journey. No matter how long you've been a Christian, we all have a next step in our walk with Jesus. If you've accepted the call of and invited Jesus into your life your next step is baptism. If you you'd like to discover this decision please speak to a Pastor or Elder. We praise Yahweh for your decision to get baptized!

4 Things You Need To Know About Baptism:

1. Baptism is about going public.

Probably the most well-known foundation of baptisms is that it's a public proclamation of our choosing the life-long commitment to follow Jesus. It's a time to celebrate a new life, signified by the water cleansing you of filth as Jesus has cleansed you from unrighteousness. It's a time to celebrate with others that you stand boldly and publicly on this truth!

2. Baptism is about being obedient.

Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, *baptizing them* in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28v19). The first thing Jesus tells us to do after salvation through justification is baptism. We can't say we'll do anything for God if we won't do the first thing. If you have not been baptized since asking Jesus into your life, baptism is your next step. We want to be bold, courageous and obedient in our discipleship with Jesus.

3. Baptism comes after Justification.

In the first recorded sermon in the early church, Peter preached to a crowd of thousands. About 3,000 people were saved, and the first thing Peter told them to do after salvation was get baptized (Acts 2v38). The pattern continues through the rest of the early church. Baptism coordinates with a unique truth in scripture, that Yahweh has been cleansing unrighteousness with water for generations and continues that process in your life with a new and living water that Jesus can offer. Baptism in water recalls all that ancient imagery forcing us to see God's good plan to redeem us from our inception. (Genesis 7, Exodus 14, Matthew 3v13-17)

4. Baptism speaks of redemption.

Ultimately, you go into the water looking the same as you come out. It's a beautiful testament to God's redemption. He doesn't long for you to be destroyed as a result of your sin, or disobedience, He is redeeming you. He's cleansing you. He's committed to your life-long sanctification process (1 Corinthians 15v2) and will be with you every step of that journey!

That's something to celebrate! We praise God for your proclamation, obedience, salvation and redemption!