

# **WATER BAPTISM CLASS**

CALVARY CHURCH

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## **I. WHY Should I Be Baptized?**

Why do we do this?

A. I am not being baptized in order to:

1. To please my friends, my parents or my pastor.  
This is not about seeking man's approval
2. Because my church believes in it.
3. Not to fulfill tradition or follow a religious form.

B. I am being baptized:

1. Because Christ is my example
  - a) Matthew 3:13-17 – I identify with Him
  - b) I Peter 2:21 – Leaving us an example that we should follow in His footsteps.
2. Because Christ gave His command
  - a) Matthew 28:19-20 – I desire to obey Him in doing this

## **II. WHEN Should I Be Baptized?**

A. I should not be baptized:

1. Before I have accepted Jesus as my Savior.
2. When I understand better.
3. When I feel I am ready.
4. When I am a better Christian.

B. I should be baptized:

1. When I have repented of my sin and received Jesus as my Savior. This is the first step before water baptism can be a significant experience. It is a testimony that Christ has changed by life.
  - a) Matthew 3:5-9
  - b) Acts 2:37-38
  - c) Acts 8:36-38
2. As soon after my commitment as I have opportunity.
  - a) Acts 2:41
  - b) Acts 9:17-18

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### **III. HOW Should I Be Baptized?**

- A. The most generally accepted meaning of the word “baptize” is “to immerse”.
- B. Jesus was baptized by immersion. Matthew 3:16
- C. Immersion most clearly symbolizes the death of the old life and the beginning of the new. Romans 6:3-4

### **IV. By WHOSE Authority Should I Be Baptized? Matthew 28:19-20**

- A. In the name of the Father – He was the One who voiced His approval at His Son’s baptism. Matthew 3:17
- B. In the name of the Son – He is the One whose sacrifice for our sins made our new life possible. Matthew 1:21
- C. In the name of the Holy Spirit – He is the One whose power brings the work of regeneration and renewing in us. Tituse 3:5

### **V. WHAT Should Baptism Mean To Me?**

- A. Baptism is not:
  - 1. A conversion experience
  - 2. The way of salvation
  - 3. My ticket to heaven
  
- B. Baptism is:
  - 1. A step of faith – I Corinthians 15:1-4  
In baptism I am expressing my faith in Christ: “I believe you died for me. I believe you have saved me from my sins.” We are seeking God’s approval, not man’s. Jesus received His Father’s approval when He was baptized in water.
  - 2. A step of obedience – John 14:15  
By obeying Christ’s command I am submitting to His authority and recognizing His right to be Lord of my life.
  - 3. A step of commitment – Mark 8:34; Matthew 10:32  
in baptism I am saying before God, my fellow believers, and the whole world, that I have made my choice; that my life from this day forward is committed to Jesus Christ.

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### 4. A public testimony

I have said “yes” to Christ and “no” to sin and the devil. I have decided to follow Jesus.

## **VI. WHAT Will Baptism Do For Me?**

### A. Water baptism will not:

1. Cleanse me from sin.
2. Make me a new person.
3. Give me eternal life.

### B. Water baptism:

#### 1. Symbolizes (shows or demonstrates) Romans 6:3-11

It is a divine “object lesson” or “drama” picturing for me and for all witnesses the work which Christ has done for me and in me.

#### 2. Identifies Romans 6:6-11

It identifies me with Christ in His death and resurrection. I am saying, in effect, “I am crucified with Christ...” Galations 3:20

#### 3. Signifies Romans 6:11-14

It signifies that what God’s Word says is true for all who receive Christ, is also true for me. The power of sin and satan has been broken in my life and I can walk in newness of life in Him. If we let the reality of this truth grip us, our baptism can be an important step of victory for us.

#### 4. Seals Jude 24-25

Often after important victories in the lives of His people, God commanded them to erect memorial stones so they might never forget they were God’s children; committed to His care and keeping power. In the same way, the day of my baptism can be a memorial before God, sealing my commitment to Jesus Christ until the day of His return!

#### 5. Affirms Galations 3:27-28

It affirms that we are united with God’s family. “I am a part. I no longer stand alone.” I recognize that no one is an island. I am complete only in Christ. Now I unashamedly confess that I belong to God’s family and I am united in faith with my brothers and sisters in God’s household.

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**Details:** Testimony  
Robes  
How to “go under”  
Tour

**Do not touch the mic!**

## *Water Baptism Class*

### **1. Why Should I Be Baptized?**

A. I am not being baptized:

1. To please my \_\_\_\_\_, my \_\_\_\_\_ or my pastor.
2. Because my \_\_\_\_\_ believes in it.
3. To fulfill \_\_\_\_\_ or follow a religious \_\_\_\_\_.

B. I am being baptized:

1. Because \_\_\_\_\_ is my example. (Matthew 3:13-17; I Peter 2:21)
2. Because Christ gave His \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 28:19-20)

### **2. When Should I Be Baptized?**

A. I should not be baptized:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ I have accepted Jesus as my Savior.
2. When I \_\_\_\_\_ better.
3. When I \_\_\_\_\_ I am ready.
4. When I am a \_\_\_\_\_ Christian.

B. I should be baptized:

1. When I have \_\_\_\_\_ of my sin and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus as my \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 3:5-9; Acts 2:37-38, 8:36-38)
2. As \_\_\_\_\_ after my commitment as I have opportunity. (Acts 2:41, 9:17-18)

### **3. How Should I Be Baptized?**

- A. The most generally accept meaning of the word “baptism” is “to immerse”.
- B. Jesus was baptized by immersion. (Matthew 3:16)
- C. The clearest symbol of baptism is immersion. (Romans 6:3-4)

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## **4. By Whose Authority Should I Be Baptized?**

- A. In the name of the \_\_\_\_\_ . (Matthew 3:17, 28:19)
- B. In the name of the \_\_\_\_\_ . (Matthew 1:21)
- C. In the name of the \_\_\_\_\_ . (Titus 3:5)

## **5. What Should Baptism Mean To Me?**

A. Baptism is not:

- 1. A \_\_\_\_\_ experience.
- 2. The way of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. My \_\_\_\_\_ to heaven.

B. Baptism is:

- 1. A step of \_\_\_\_\_ . (I Corinthians 15:1-4)
- 2. A step of \_\_\_\_\_ . (John 14:15)
- 3. A step of \_\_\_\_\_ . (Mark 8:34; Matthew 10:32)
- 4. A public \_\_\_\_\_ .

## **6. What Will Baptism Do For Me?**

A. Water baptism will not:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ me from sin.
- 2. Make me a \_\_\_\_\_ person.
- 3. Give me \_\_\_\_\_ life.

B. Water baptism:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 6:3-11)
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 6:6-11)
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 6:11-14)
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ (Jude 24,25)
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_ (Galatians 3:27-28)