

## **BAPTISM: Following through with your faith**

Baptism is the way Christians publicly announce their faith

“So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven”  
Matthew 10.32

### **Who is baptized?**

- Someone who has become a believer by trusting Jesus as Savior
- Someone who understands that baptism is a picture of what Christ has done in their life
- Someone who is not ashamed to publicly follow Jesus’ example

### **Why should I be baptized?**

- Jesus tells you to: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them...” Matthew 28.19
- Baptism is your first step towards following the Lord. Jesus did it (Mark 1.9) and His followers do too (Acts 2.41; 8.38).
- Baptism is a picture of dying to your old way of life and being born-again, raised to a new life. “We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” Romans 6.4
- Baptism shows others that you have received Christ: “So those who received his word were baptized...” Acts 2.41

### **How is baptism done?**

- Going down into water: Acts 8.38; John 3.23
- Being “buried” in the water and then raised from it: Romans 6.4; Colossians 2.12
- Coming out of the water: Mark 1.10; Acts 8.39

The Greek word for baptism (*baptizō*) means to “immerse.”

Though not essential for salvation, baptism is by immersion when done correctly.

### **Where is baptism done?**

Fellow Christians should publicly baptize believers in front of other followers of Christ. Baptism can happen at any public place when a group of believers come together. So, a worship service is the perfect place to be baptized.

### **When is baptism done?**

As is the case in the New Testament, people should follow-through with baptism as soon as they have trusted Jesus as their savior: Acts 2.41; 8.36; 16.14-15, 33

Because it’s done after someone becomes a believer, it’s called Believer’s baptism.

### **What’s stopping you?**

Philip shared Christ with a man from Ethiopia in Acts 8.36. After the man accepted the Lord he wanted to stop and be baptized right away. If you’ve accepted Jesus then you should ask yourself the same question the Ethiopian asked “What prevents me from being baptized?”

### **When I’m baptized, does that make me a member of your church?**

Baptism is a prerequisite to membership of our church, but you do not need to join the church to be baptized.

### **Do I need to be baptized again?**

Believers are only baptized once. As long as you’ve been biblically baptized (that is, after you trust in Jesus, by immersion, in front of fellow believers, by fellow believers, and you understood what it meant) you would not need to be baptized again.

### **Are you ready?**

We’d love to baptize you to publicly proclaim that Jesus is your Lord and that you are not ashamed of the gospel!!  
For more info. on baptism simply email: [JohnH@FBMaryville.org](mailto:JohnH@FBMaryville.org) or give us a call at 618-667-8221.

**May God bless you as you follow our Lord!**