



Baptism

What is baptism?

Baptism is something we do to follow Jesus' example, to identify with him and to show everyone what we believe. When you share your story and get baptised in front of people, it tells them that you believe Jesus Christ is God and that you want to follow Him with your life.

What does the Bible say about baptism?

Jesus himself was baptised by John the Baptist. (Matthew 3:13-17)

As the apostle Philip was travelling along the road he met a man from Ethiopia. The Ethiopian asked some questions about Jesus, Philip answered, and the Ethiopian man decided to believe in and follow Jesus! Philip baptised him right there in a river along the road. (Acts 8)

The Bible explains that by being baptised you're showing your connection with Jesus' death, burial and resurrection into new life:

For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. (Romans 6:4)

Some of the other symbols of baptism:

- Death to Yourself (Romans 6:4)
- Burial (Romans 6:4 & Colossians 2:12)
- Being Raised to New Life (Romans 6:4)
- Being Washed Clean (Acts 22:16 & 1 Peter 3:21)
- Submitting to Jesus & Accepting Him as Lord (Acts 2:41)

When should we be baptised?

You can be baptised any time after you have made the head & heart decision to accept Jesus as God and to follow Him. You don't have to wait until you're a perfect Christian or until you've been a Christian for a while.

Why do we get baptised?

Being baptised is following what Jesus asked us to do:

"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)

What happens after baptism?

Sometimes when people are baptised they experience miraculous and amazing feelings and changes in their life. Other people don't feel or experience anything different at all, but baptism is still a big part of their Christian life and faith. It's a very important step in our faith, trust and obedience as followers of Jesus.

When you make a huge step of faith like baptism you will find that you are a big target of the devil. The devil doesn't like it when people stand for Jesus, so he'll do anything to make your life difficult in the before your baptism and in the days and weeks afterwards. If you find it really tough for a while after you get baptised, remember that the devil is trying to distract you from Jesus. Make sure you have someone to talk to so they can encourage you, pray for you and help you stay strong after your baptism!