

Good News Baptist Church



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Rev. Byron C. Crawford, Pastor

Your decision to be baptized is one of the most significant choices you'll ever make. By committing your life to Jesus and accepting His leading, you have an exciting journey ahead of you!

Common Baptism Questions

Why Should I Be Baptized?

Water baptism is important in the life of a Christian because it is an outward expression and statement to family, friends and the church that a person has committed their life to Jesus Christ and desires to live their life in a way that pleases God. Baptism does not save us. (That is only done through the confession of our sins to God; our belief that Jesus is the Son of God and died on the cross and rose again from the dead three days later; and our invitation to Jesus Christ to come into our life and take control of our life.) However, baptism does publicly say to those around us that we are followers of Jesus Christ. The Bible says that the outward expression is important and should be done by all believers. Baptism is the Bible way to let the world know that you've committed your life to Christ - that you've accepted the message of God's good news.

- ***Baptism is God's chosen method for new converts to express their faith in the risen Christ.***

"... Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." (Romans 6:3-4)

- ***To follow the example set by Christ***
“At that time Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized by John in the river.” (Mark 1:9)
- ***Because Christ commanded it***
“ Jesus said, ‘Go then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples, baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and then teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.’” (Matthew 28:19-20)
- ***It demonstrates obedience to Christ***
“ We know that we have come to know Him, if we obey His commands.” (1 John 2:3)

What is the Meaning of Baptism?

Baptism is a public declaration that you are accepting God’s gift of salvation, and are preparing to begin a new life with Jesus as your top priority. It also shows that you are committing yourself--your time, talent and tithe--to help build up God’s church. With Baptism you accept the rights and responsibilities of church membership, and enter a new phase in your walk with Jesus.

- “... Christ died for our sins ... He was buried ... and He rose again.” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)
- “For when you are baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ.” (Colossians 2:12)
- “When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. The old life has passed away and a new life has begun!” (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- “By our baptism then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead ... so also we may live a new life.” (Romans 6:4)

Is it Important to Be Baptized by Immersion?

At GNBC, we believe that is what the Bible dictates. In fact, the word “baptize” means to “dip under water.” It is how Jesus was baptized and it is the only form of baptism the Bible refers to.

- “As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water.” (Matthew 3:16)

In addition, immersion baptism fully symbolizes burial and resurrection.

What Should I Wear When I Am Baptized?

Baptism candidates should bring dark shorts or pants, a dark top and white socks. Bring a towel, undergarments, any personal necessities and a plastic bag for your wet clothes. A swim cap may be worn if desired. A white robe will be provided to wear over your clothes.

Can I Invite My Family and Friends to My Baptism?

Yes. Your Baptism ceremony provides you with first opportunities to invite friends, family, co-workers, and neighbors to church to hear the Gospel.

When Will My Baptism Take Place?

Your baptism will take place before the end of Sunday Morning Worship Service on:

What If I Have More Questions About My Baptism?

Please contact Pastor Crawford at (314) 313-1743