

Water Baptism

What is the meaning of baptism?

It illustrates Christ's burial and resurrection.

"Christ died for our sins... He was buried... and He rose again." -I Corinthians 15:3-4

"For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ." - Colossians. 2:12

It illustrates my new life as a Christian.

Baptism doesn't make you a believer - it shows that you already believe. Baptism does not "save" you, only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism is like a wedding ring - it's the outward symbol of the commitment you make in your heart.

"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

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith... it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast." -Ephesians 2:8,9

Why be baptized by immersion?

Because Jesus was baptized that way.

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

Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion.

(Example) "...then both Philip and the man went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water..." -Acts 8:38-39

The word baptize means "to dip under water". The Greek word baptize means "to immerse or dip under water". It symbolizes Christ's burial and resurrection!

When should I be baptized?

As soon as you have become a believer.

"Those who believe...were baptized...that day!" -Acts 2:41

"Then Philip began with the scripture and told him the Good News about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water, and the man said, 'Look, here is water! Why shouldn't I be baptized right now?' Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' The man answered, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. So they went down into the water and Philip baptized him.'" -Acts 8:35-38

There is no reason to delay. As soon as you have decided to receive Christ into your life, you can and should be baptized. If you wait until you are "perfect," you'll never feel "good enough". If you have been a follower of Christ for some time, though, it's never too late!

Whom does Summit Church baptize?

Every person who believes in Christ.

"Those who believe and accepted His message were baptized..." -Acts 2:41

"Simon himself believed and was baptized..." -Acts 8:13

"But when they believed Philip as he preached the Good News... and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." -Acts 8:12

At Summit Church, we wait until our children are old enough to believe and understand the true meaning of baptism before we baptize them (typically ages eight and up).

At Summit Church, we offer Child Dedication for parents who wish to make a covenant to raise their child to know and love the Lord. For more information about Child Dedications, you can email info@summitchurchaz.com.

What should I wear when I am baptized?

Wear clothes that will not retain much water (jeans are not good), such as long swim trunks or dark shorts. Please wear a dark colored t-shirt. Make sure to bring a change of clothes, a towel, and a plastic bag for your wet clothes.

How do I get baptized?

We ask everyone to attend an info meeting beforehand. During this time we will also record a brief video of you answering the question, "Why do you want to be baptized?"

If you are interested in being water baptized, please email info@summitchurchaz.com.