

## **What is baptism?**

At CrossPointe we highly value the beauty and purpose of water baptism. As we help people see SIMPLY JESUS as the truth they are searching for, we also guide them to baptism as Jesus and His Apostles commanded. The best way to approach the question “What is baptism?” is to let Scripture speak for itself.

## **Scripture says that baptism is....**

An imitation of Jesus — Matt 3:13

*Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him.*

An immersion of a new believer in water — Acts 8:26-40

*And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?”*

A union with Christ — Romans 6:1-6

*“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 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.”*

A plea to God for a good conscience — 1 Peter 3:21

*Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ...*

An initial faith response to the gospel message — Acts 2:38

*And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit...”*

A first step in following Jesus and fulfilling the great commission — Matthew 28:18-20

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”*

A cleansing — Acts 22:16

*And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.*

A command linked with belief and salvation — Mark 16:16

*Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.*

A putting on of a new self in Christ — Galatians 3:27

*For as many of you were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*

A submission in faith to the work of God through the gospel of Christ — Colossians 2:12

*Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.*

As we consider all of Scripture, we learn that baptism is more than just an option or a good thing to do. Baptism is an integral part of the beautiful, God-prescribed act of surrender for people far from God who are coming to Jesus in faith and obedience. It’s an action that says “I trust Jesus and want to receive His Spirit and live in His Kingdom forever.”

Baptism is a beautiful picture of what Christ has done for us and allows us to identify with Him in His death, burial, and resurrection. We encourage everyone who follows Christ, and anyone who wants to follow Christ, to participate in water baptism if they have not already done so.

**All Scriptures that contain a reference to Baptism, Baptize, Baptized, and Baptizing**

As you read through these references, make sure to read what comes before and after so you get a clear view of what's going on. Write down any patterns, insights, or questions you observe.

***Matthew:***

Matthew 3:6  
Matthew 3:7  
Matthew 3:11  
Matthew 3:13  
Matthew 3:16  
Matthew 21:25  
Matthew 28:19

***Mark:***

Mark 1:4 (2x)  
Mark 1:5  
Mark 1:8 (2x)  
Mark 1:9  
Mark 10:38 (5x)  
Mark 11:30  
Mark 16:16

***Luke:***

Luke 3:3  
Luke 3:7  
Luke 3:12  
Luke 3:16  
Luke 3:21  
Luke 7:29 (3x)  
Luke 12:50 (2x)  
Luke 20:4

***John:***

John 1:25  
John 1:26  
John 1:28  
John 1:31  
John 1:33  
John 3:22  
John 3:23  
John 3:26  
John 4:1  
John 4:2  
John 10:40

***Acts:***

Acts 1:5  
Acts 1:22  
Acts 2:38  
Acts 2:41  
Acts 8:12 (2x)  
Acts 8:16  
Acts 8:36 (2x)  
Acts 9:18  
Acts 10:48  
Acts 10:37  
Acts 10:47  
Acts 11:16 (2x)  
Acts 13:24  
Acts 16:15  
Acts 16:33  
Acts 18:8  
Acts 18:25  
Acts 19:3  
Acts 22:16

***Romans:***

Romans 6:3 (2x)  
Romans 6:4

***1 Corinthians***

1 Corinthians 1:13 (4x)  
1 Corinthians 1:16  
1 Corinthians 10:2  
1 Corinthians 12:13  
1 Corinthians 15:29 (2x)

***Galatians:***

Galatians 3:27

***Ephesians:***

Ephesians 4:5

***Colossians:***

Colossians 2:12

***1 Peter:***

1 Peter 3:21