

Baptism @ Faith

Faith Bible Chapel International Baptism Booklet

All scriptures quoted from the
New Living Translation Of The Bible



www.fbc.org

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Dear Friend:

I am excited about choosing to be baptized. Your desire to be baptized is a sign of your obedience, identification, and commitment to Jesus Christ.

As you may know, there are many beliefs and traditions associated with baptism. Without going through all of the beliefs and traditions, we at Faith Bible Chapel adhere to the basic philosophy that baptism is an act for those who have already accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, along with being an act of obedience and a teaching of the Bible that Jesus intended His followers to observe.

You will notice in this booklet that there are many references in the New Testament about baptism. The reason for the number of references is that baptism was an important practice for the early Christians. Today, it is an important practice for Christian churches throughout the world, including Faith Bible Chapel.

As I see it, Jesus life and ministry, along with His crucifixion, death, burial, and resurrection is the Lord's offer of new life to us. Baptism then is our public profession and acceptance of the fact that Jesus lived, died, was buried, and rose from the tomb.

Congratulations on your decision to be baptized. May God continue to bless and encourage you throughout your Christian walk.

Sincerely,

George Morrison
Senior Pastor
Faith Bible Chapel International

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I. What Is Baptism?

- A public profession of faith.
- Sometimes called, “Believers Baptism” because a person must be a believer (Christian) to be baptized).
- Word “baptism” means “immersion” whereby we are “emerged” with Christ

He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. (Acts 8:38-39).

- Evidence that you are a follower of Christ—a Christian who knows and proclaims Jesus Christ as their personal savior.
- Identification with Christ’s birth, death, and resurrection.

II. What Is Baptism As Described In New Testament?

- Baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sin.

This messenger was John the Baptist. He lived in the wilderness and was preaching that people should be baptized to show that they had turned from their sins and turned to God to be forgiven. People from Jerusalem and from all over Judea traveled out into the wilderness to see and hear John. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. (Mark 1:4-5)

- Jesus continued and encouraged the practice of baptism.

Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given complete authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

Faith Bible Chapel International Baptism Booklet (Continued)

II. What Is Baptism As Described In New Testament? (Continued)

- Central theme in the developing Church.

Peter replied, "Each of you must turn from your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This promise is to you and to your children, and even to the Gentiles — all who have been called by the Lord our God." Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, "Save yourselves from this generation that has gone astray!" Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church — about three thousand in all. (Acts 2:38-41)

- Crucified and buried with Christ

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. Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised as he was. Our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. (Romans 6:4-7)

- The symbol of baptism.

And this is a picture of baptism, which now saves you by the power of Jesus Christ's resurrection. Baptism is not a removal of dirt from your body; it is an appeal to God from a clean conscience. (1 Peter 3:21)

III. Some Misconceptions About Baptism

- The act of baptism is not for the forgiveness of sin.
- The act of baptism does not mean you are saved or is tied to salvation.
- The act of baptism does not make you an automatic member of Faith Bible Chapel.

Faith Bible Chapel International Baptism Booklet (Continued)

IV. Baptism At Faith Bible Chapel

- Women and men dressing rooms are available at the back stage of the Family Worship Center.
- Women dressing room is to the right side. Men dressing room is to the left side.
- Wear dark, modest clothing since you will be completely immersed in water.
- Bring a towel and a complete change of clothing. Again, you will be completely immersed in water.
- Sit in the front row after you have changed.
- Family and friends may come up while you are being baptized to take pictures, cheer, and celebrate with you.

V. At The Time You Will Be Baptized

- Be sure to walk down the steps slowly as they are slippery.
- Be sure to face the camera so that everyone can see you being baptized.
- As you are being baptized, give everyone your biggest smile.
- Those who are baptizing you will say something like:

“As a profession of your faith and trust in Jesus Christ and in obedience to His command, I gladly baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”
- Be sure to plug your nose just before the pastors baptize you (there is no need to have water up your nose).
- Just relax—let those baptizing you bring you out of the water.
- After you are baptized, be sure to walk up the steps slowly as they are slippery.
- Women will exit stage right to the women’s dressing room. Men will exit stage left to the men’s dressing room.