

SESSION 1

Water Baptism

Session #1 Teaching Water Baptism

We are so excited that you are considering baptism! Every person can have a personal relationship with Jesus, and we encourage you to make a decision to follow Him. Believing in God is not just learning about Him, but walking with Him every day.

Baptism is a spiritual milestone in your life. Baptism as a believer is a decision to celebrate God cleansing away sin (Acts 22:16), and bringing your inner spirit to life (Romans 6:4-5)!

Some of the questions to ask yourself as you consider baptism:

1. When did you decide to follow Jesus and allow Him to be your Lord and Savior? You should be able to describe to Jesus has done on the cross and in His resurrection, and that you need Jesus in your life to save you, and to guide you.

2. What does it mean to be water baptized? Baptism is to celebrate God bringing to life your spirit. Baptism is a way to celebrate becoming a believer in a public way. A believer's baptism is a picture and celebration of God having cleansed your sins and His bringing your spirit to eternal life!

3. Why do you want to be water baptized? Jesus was baptized and He tells His believers to be baptized. As a follower of Jesus, baptism is a way to express, "I'm a follower of Jesus and I want to reveal to others that I surrender to follow Him as my Lord and Savior."

Review this Water Baptism Devotional:

- Being baptized in water is one of the first steps you take in following Jesus. A follower of Jesus does not just learn about Jesus, but follows Jesus and does His will. The number one reason you should get baptized in water is because Jesus did and He told us to follow in this celebration. When you became a follower of Jesus, you were brought into God's kingdom under Jesus' control. Take time right now to read about Jesus' baptism in your Bible in Matthew 3:13-17. What is the number one reason you should be baptized in water?

- **Discuss the Outward Picture:**

"...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." Colossians 2:12 ESV

- Water baptism is an outward picture of what Jesus has done for you in your spirit. Jesus died for your sins, was buried, and then was raised from the dead! When you asked Jesus to be your Lord and Savior, there was a death, a burial and a resurrection (that means your spirit that has been dead in sin, is brought to life) that happened in your spirit as you prayed the prayer (1 Corinthians 12:13).

- By going under the water you are showing people that your old spirit and all your past sins (the bad things you did) are buried with Jesus. When you come up out of the water, you are saying that Jesus has given you new life. Everyone sees the picture of the change that has taken place inside your heart.

- **What is water baptism a picture of?**

- **Discuss the Decision of Faith:**

"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." Romans 6:4 ESV

- Water baptism does not save you. It has purpose and meaning only after a person has decided to follow Jesus and believed in Jesus in their heart and life. But water baptism is a very important step in your new Christian life. When you decided to follow Jesus, you made a decision of faith to receive Him into your heart. When you are baptized in water, you are making a decision of faith to follow Him all the days of your life. You are choosing to let Jesus be in charge of your new spiritual life. Your water baptism will always be a reminder of your decision to follow Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

- **When you are baptized in water, it means you have made a decision of faith to do what?**