WHY BE BAPTIZED

B.L.E.S.S.: Baptism Sunday
November 15, 2026
Pastor Brian

*"Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: **baptize them** in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit," (Matthew 28:19, GNB)*

THE BASICS OF BAPTISM

1. **It's an act of my FULL SUBMISSION.**

   *"Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?" But Jesus said, "It should be done, for **we must carry out all that God requires**." So John agreed to baptize him. After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who **brings me great joy**."" (Matthew 3:13–17, NLT)*

   *"And we can be sure that we know him **if we obey his commandments**." (1 John 2:3, NLT)*

   *"**Do what God's word says**. Don't merely listen to it, or you will fool yourselves." (James 1:22, GW)*

2. **It's my very FIRST STEP as a believer.**

   *"Philip preached the good news of God's kingdom. He preached the name of Jesus Christ. So men and women **believed and were baptized**." (Acts 8:12, NIrV)*

   *"So Philip began with this same Scripture and then used many others to tell him about Jesus. As they rode along, they came to a small body of water, and the [Ethiopian] said, "Look! Water! **Why can't I be baptized**?" "**You can**," Philip answered, "**if you believe with all your heart**." And [he] replied, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." He stopped the chariot, and **they went down into the water** and Philip baptized him." (Acts 8:35–38, The Living Bible)*

   *"At that hour of the night, the jailer took Paul and Silas and washed their wounds. **Right away he and his whole family were baptized**." (Acts 16:33, NIrV)*

   *"The synagogue leader Crispus and his whole family believed in the Lord. Many Corinthians who heard Paul **believed and were baptized**. " (Acts 18:8, GW)*

   "While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior regions until he reached Ephesus, on the coast, where he found several believers. "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" he asked them. "No," they replied, "we haven't even heard that there is

*a Holy Spirit." "Then **what baptism did you experience**?" he asked. And they replied, "The baptism of John." Paul said, "John's baptism called for repentance from sin. But John himself told the people to **believe** in the one who would come later, meaning Jesus." **As soon as they heard this, they were baptized** in the name of the Lord Jesus." (Acts 19:1–5, NLT)*

There's no such thing as a delayed disciple.

3. **It's the symbol of my FRESH START.**

*…when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? 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. (Romans 6:3-4, NLT)*

*"…Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; **a new life has begun**!" (2 Corinthians 5:17, NLT)*

4. **It is my public FAITH STATEMENT.**

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that **whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life**." (John 3:16, NIV84)*

*"If you **declare** that Jesus is Lord, and **believe** that God brought him back to life, you will be saved. By believing you receive God's approval, and by declaring your faith you are saved." (Romans 10:9–10, GW)*

*"Those who **declare publicly** that they belong to me, I will do the same before my Father in heaven. But if anyone rejects me publicly, I will reject him before my Father in heaven." (Matthew 10:32–33, GNB)*

Believer's baptism is when I am fully IMMERSED
AFTER I have become a Christian
out of OBEDIENCE to Christ's command
as a SYMBOL of my personal salvation.

ACTION STEP
GET BAPTIZED TODAY!