

# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BELIEVER'S BAPTISM

BAPTISM SUNDAY | October 27, 2019

Pastor Brian

*People from Jerusalem and from all of Judea and all over the Jordan Valley went out to see and hear John. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River...“I baptize with water those who repent of their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I’m not worthy even to be his slave and carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire...” 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 3:5-6, 11, 13-17, NLT)*

## 1. IT IS A FIRST STEP.

*Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all 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. (Matthew 28:18-19, NLT)*

*Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of 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. (Acts 2:37-38, NLT)*

*“Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away.” (Acts 3:19, NLT)*

*“He is the one all the prophets testified about, saying that everyone who believes in him will have their sins forgiven through his name.” (Acts 10:43, NLT)*

*“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, NIV)*

*“As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look! There’s some water! Why can’t I be baptized?” He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.” (Acts 8:36–38, NLT)*

## 2. IT IS A FRESH START.

*“Everything that we have—right thinking and right living, a clean slate and a fresh start—comes from God by way of Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 1:30, The Message)*

***What We Get When We Become a Christian***

† **New LIFE**

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV)*

† **New LIKES**

*“All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection, to share in his sufferings and become like him in his death,” (Philippians 3:10, GNB)*

† **New LOVE**

*Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all. (Acts 2:41, NLT)*

**3. IT IS A FULL SYMBOL.**

*...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)*

*You were baptized into union with Christ, and now you are clothed, so to speak, with the life of Christ himself. (Galatians 3:27, GNT)*

**4. IT IS A FAITH STATEMENT.**

*“Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven.” (Matthew 10:32-33, NLT)*

*“If you love me, obey my commandments.” (John 14:15, NLT)*

**ONE LAST THOUGHT:**

The **CROSS** was God’s way of saying, “I LOVE YOU.”  
Baptism is our way of saying, “**I LOVE YOU TOO!**”