

WATER BAPTISM

What Stops You From Being Water Baptized?

In Acts 8:36, when the Ethiopian eunuch heard the gospel, he asked Philip, “See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?”

Acts 8:37

Philip replied, “If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest.”

So according to the Bible, the only thing that can stop you from being baptized is unbelief — not truly believing in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Let's look at this in more detail:

1. You must believe in Jesus Christ

Mark 16:16

“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”

Baptism is a sign of faith in Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection. If you have not yet believed or understood who Jesus is, that’s the first step.

2. You must repent of your sins

Acts 2:38

“Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...” —

Repentance means turning away from sin and turning toward God. If someone refuses to repent, they’re not ready for baptism.

3. You must understand what baptism means

Baptism is not just a religious ceremony — it’s a public declaration that your old life is buried with Christ and you are raised to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3–4).

NOTE: If you don’t understand its meaning, it may not yet carry spiritual significance for you.

4. You must be willing to follow Jesus

Baptism marks the beginning of a new life of obedience to Christ.

If someone wants forgiveness without surrender, they are holding back from full discipleship.

5. Nothing else can stop you

Once you believe, repent, and decide to follow Jesus, nothing can stop you — not your past, not your mistakes, not your age, and not what others think.

Romans 10:13

“Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Personal Preparation for Baptism

You must:

1. Believe

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

2. Repent

1 John 1:9

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” —

3. Confess Jesus openly

Romans 10:9

“If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”

4. Be Baptized

Matthew 28:19

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” —

EMBRACE YOUR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST