

WATER BAPTISM

Why DO We Do It?

Romans 6: 1-11

Matthew 3:13 -15



**Richmond
Pentecostal
Church**

A PLACE WHERE YOU BELONG



CONNECTION WITH GOD

Romans 6:1-11

Water baptism builds a deeper connection between our lives and God - God as seen through the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. He becomes more than just the Lord as we declare Him, with our lips. He becomes the Lord we now declare through action. We truly identify with Jesus Christ, His life, ministry, death, and resurrection a little more when we are baptized in water. The bible declares three ways we identify with our risen Lord Jesus Christ when we are baptized: When we are fully immersed in the water, symbolically, (1) we die with Christ to their old self; (2) we rise with Christ to become a new creation; and (3) we are incorporated into new life with a living community which looks for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:1-11

6 1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— 7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. 10 The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

FOLLOW JESUS CHRIST

What sets us apart as Christians? 1 fact more than anything else. We follow Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. When we choose to surrender our lives to Him that means we are now willing to follow Jesus wherever and whomever He would lead us to. We want to act, speak, live like Jesus more and more in our lives. One of the ways we follow Him is through water baptism. Jesus Christ, Himself, was baptized in water. Though He was and is the Son of God, not needing that connection with God (as He is God Himself) that water baptism opens the door to, He still went through the process. If Jesus felt so strongly about the process of water baptism, as Christians who follow Him, we should follow Jesus Christ in the waters of baptism as well.



Matthew 3:13-15

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. 14 But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

15 Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.



OUR LIVES ARE MEANT FOR MORE THAN EXISTING THROUGH THIS LIFE. WE ARE MEANT TO FULFILL ALL THE PURPOSES AND PLANS GOD HAD DREAMED IN US FROM THE MOMENT HE CREATED US! RETURNING TO ROMANS 6:4, WE SEE A LIFE-CHANGING PASSAGE, IF WE CHOOSE TO FOLLOW JESUS IN THE WATERS OF BAPTISM.

GREATER PURPOSE IN JESUS CHRIST

Romans 6:4

4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.



When we are baptized in water, we not only connect with God deeper and follow Jesus Christ, but set ourselves up for greater purpose in the 'new life' Jesus Christ now has for every Christian. Are there dreams God has planted in you that have been dormant for years? Now that you're a Christian, do you feel 'new' in your life, maybe even like a giddy, innocent, pure baby staring at a whole new life? Ready for everything Jesus Christ has for you? Follow Jesus Christ in the waters of baptism today!

WATER BAPTISM

3 QUESTIONS

Should Infants and Children Be Baptized?

After Peter spoke at Pentecost, "those who gladly received his word (in its entirety) were baptized." (Acts 2:41). In the New Testament, every instance in which a person was baptized and his or her identity was given, that person was an adult. In light of Scripture, infant baptism must be ruled out, because infants cannot receive the Word of God and understand it. However, infants are to be dedicated to the Lord (1 Samuel 1:26-28). Children may be baptized if they receive and understand God's Word.

In Whose Name Should We Be Baptized?

As part of the Great Commission, Jesus instructed the disciples to baptize "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

Is Water Baptism Necessary For Salvation?

The Bible clearly teaches that we are saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9) and according to God's mercy (Titus 3:5). The thief on the cross next to Jesus had no time to be baptized, yet Jesus promised that he would be with Him in Paradise that day (Luke 23:43). The Bible contains no record of Jesus baptizing anyone—a strange omission if baptism was essential for salvation. The Apostle Paul declared, "For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel...." (1 Corinthians 1:17). This clearly indicates that salvation is a response of faith to the gospel—not the act of baptism. Therefore, water baptism is not an act of salvation, but an act of obedience.

