



Baptism

When should I be baptized?

In Scripture, the act of baptism quickly follows an individual's decision to trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation (Acts 2:37-41; 8:35-39; 10:47-48). After you have professed your faith in Jesus Christ for salvation, you are ready to obey Jesus' command to be baptized and publicly identify yourself as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Am I spiritually ready to be baptized?

Christ followers are people who have chosen to put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ. The Bible makes clear we have all sinned and as a result, we are separated from God. This relationship cannot be repaired through good works or religious activity. So, as a solution, God sent His only son Jesus Christ, to die for our sins - to pay the penalty - so whoever believes in Him will be forgiven and have eternal life.

If you have come to this point in your spiritual journey by accepting Jesus Christ as your Savior, then you are ready to be baptized. Don't wait for the "perfect time" - do it now!

What is baptism?

Baptism is the public declaration of an inward spiritual transformation that has occurred when we put our faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Baptism does not save us but testifies to the world we have already been saved through faith by the power of God's grace (Ephesians 2:8-9). While baptism is not required for salvation, it is a biblical command that follows the example of Christ and demonstrates our obedience to Christ.

In Romans 6:1-11, Apostle Paul describes baptism by immersion as a means of symbolism and identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Being immersed in the water represents Christ's death and signifies a believer's death to sin. Coming up from the water represents Christ's resurrection and signifies a believer's new life in Christ. For these reasons, our congregation joyfully declares together, "You are dead to sin and alive in Christ!"

If I was baptized as a child, do I need to be baptized again?

In the New Testament, we find parents bringing their children to Jesus. He held them, prayed for them, and told His disciples to welcome them. However, Jesus did not baptize children nor instruct others to do so. If you were baptized as a child, before you made the independent choice to follow Jesus, your parents intended that you would eventually choose to follow Jesus for yourself. Your baptism as an adult does not dismiss the baptism you received as a child. In fact, it can be viewed as the fulfillment of your parents' intentions.

When is my child ready to be baptized?

Since the purpose of baptism is to publicly identify as a believer in Christ, we encourage children to wait until they are mature enough to understand and articulate the significance of the spiritual commitment they are making. Although each child is unique, this typically happens around 4th grade. In the interim, we have child dedications where parents can indicate both their commitment to raise their children in the Lord and their desire for the child to grow through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

When a child has reached a level of maturity and chosen to accept Jesus as their personal Savior, they, with parental permission, are welcome to attend a baptism class designed for their age group. This will be followed by a personal interview to make sure they understand the commitment they are making.

How do I get baptized at Calvary?

As your church family, we would be honored to baptize you during our weekend services on a pre-designated date. We will be assisting you throughout the whole baptism process, answering any questions, celebrating the moment with you, and connecting you to next steps in your spiritual journey.

If you are ready to be baptized, please complete the following three steps:

STEP ONE: Complete the baptism registration form by going to calvarycc.org/baptism.

STEP TWO: Share your faith story (maximum 200 words) with us. Specifically, when and how did you begin your relationship with Jesus Christ? How has your faith and trust in Jesus changed you? During the baptism, your photograph will be shown and an edited version of your story will be read aloud.

STEP THREE: Get baptized!

Arrive 30 minutes prior to the service for a pre-service meeting with the baptism coordinator to go through the final details of the baptism service. Please wear dark clothing, preferably t-shirts and shorts or pants. It is best to avoid dresses, skirts, jeans or sweatpants. We will provide towels. Bring clothes to change into after your baptism.