

Understanding Baptism

Here at Grace, we always want you to understand what we do and why we do it. So here's a brief introduction to baptism presented as answers to frequently asked questions about baptism. . .

Does baptism save a person?

No, salvation is by God's grace alone, through faith alone, in Jesus Christ alone. (Eph. 2:1-10) Baptism symbolizes outwardly what has already happened inwardly when a person puts their faith in Jesus.

Who should be baptized?

Those who realize that Jesus Christ lived the life that they should be living and died the death that they deserve. Those who repent of (turn from) their sins and trust Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life.

Why should I be baptized?

- A person should be baptized because Jesus commands us to be baptized. (Matthew 28:19)
- A person should be baptized to publicly proclaim their faith in Jesus Christ, so that the church can celebrate together with them and so that the world will know of our identification with Jesus Christ. (Acts 8:38)

How can I be forgiven and come into a life-changing relationship with God through Jesus Christ?

Repent of (turn from) your sins and your self-reliance and put your trust in the Lord Jesus Christ! (Acts 16:31) Realize that you're a great sinner, but that Jesus is a Great Savior. Repentance and faith must happen inwardly, but they can be expressed outwardly through a prayer something like this:

Lord Jesus Christ, thank you for dying for my sins, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and trust you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Who can I talk to about a relationship with God and/or baptism?

Any one of our staff or elders would consider it a privilege to talk with you about spiritual matters of the soul and/or baptism. We are here to serve you and desire to help any way we can. Just email or phone the church office to make an appointment. (info@gracecentralcoast.org, 805-543-2358)



What is Your
NEXT STEP?
Colossians 2:6-7 | Sept. 20, 2015

It's surprising how often the metaphor of "walk" is used in the New Testament to describe what it means to follow Jesus in the real world, like in Colossians 2 . . .

**Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord,
so WALK in him,
rooted and built up in him and established in the faith,
just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
*Colossians 2:6-7***

What is YOUR Next Step?