

Tell me
about...

BAPTISM

Virginia Beach
Community
Chapel

THE IMPORTANCE OF BAPTISM

□ Why should I be baptized?

1. **To follow the example set by Christ.**

“At that time Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptized by John in the river.” Mark 1:9

2. **To be obedient to God’s command.**

“Jesus said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, as you are going, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.’ Matthew 28:18-20

3. **To demonstrate that we’re Christ-followers.**

“...many of the people who heard him **believed** and were **baptized.**” Acts 18:8

“We know that we have come to know Him, if we obey His commands.” 1 John 2:3

□ What is the meaning of baptism?

1. **To publicly identify ourselves with Christ in His death, burial & resurrection.**

“Christ died for our sins... He was buried... and He rose again.” 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

“For when you were **baptized**, you were **buried** with Christ, and in **baptism** you were also **raised** with Christ.” Colossians 2:12

2. **To illustrate our new life as Christ-followers.**
(as an external *symbol* of an internal *reality*)

“If anyone is in Christ, he or she is a new creation! The old life has passed away! New life has come!” 2 Corinthians 5:17

“By our baptism then we were buried with Him and share His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead... we too may live a new life!” Romans 6:4

Tell me about... Baptism

Baptism doesn’t make you a believer. It shows you already believe. Baptism does not “save” you. We’re saved by grace through faith in Christ (Eph 2:8-10). Think of it as a wedding ring—it’s an outward symbol of the commitment you’ve already made in your heart to know, love and follow Christ.

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:8-10

□ Why be baptized by immersion?

1. **Because Jesus was baptized that way.**

“As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water.” Matthew 3:16

2. **Baptism in the Bible was always by immersion.**

“...then both Philip and the man went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water...” Acts 8:38-39

3. **The word “baptize” comes from the Greek word *baptizo* and literally means “to immerse” or “to dip in or under water.”**

4. **It vividly symbolizes a burial and resurrection!**

□ When should I be baptized?

When you have believed in Jesus Christ to be *the* Leader & Redeemer of your life!

“Those who believed... were baptized... **that day!**” Acts 2:41

“Then Philip began with the Scripture and told him the Good News about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water, and the man said, ‘Look, here is water! Why shouldn’t I be baptized right now?’ Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you may.’ The man answered, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’ So they went down into the water and Philip baptized him.” Acts 8:35-38

When you’ve decided to trust Christ and follow Him in this holy adventure of abundant life (John 10:10), you can & should be baptized.

If that’s your desire, let us know! You can then be included in the next scheduled baptism ceremony at VBCC.

Feel free to give us a call at (757) 428-1881

Together In Christ, Blessed to Be a Blessing