



We are so glad that you are considering baptism. Please take some time to review the following information about this next step. To sign up for baptism at guest services or email the church at VerndaleFLC@gmail.com and request more information.

Why Should I Be Baptized?

1. To follow the example set by Christ.

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

2. Because Christ commanded it.

“Therefore go and 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. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19–20)

3. It demonstrates I am a Believer.

“We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands.” (1 John 2:3)

What Is The Meaning Of Baptism?

It illustrates Christ's death, burial and resurrection.

“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day...” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

“Having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.” (Colossians 2:12)

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 3:16a)

“As Jesus was coming up out of the water...” (Mark 1:10)

2. Every Baptism in the Bible was by immersion.

(for example) “Then both Philip and the eunuch 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” means “to dip or immerse”.

4. It best symbolized a burial and resurrection.

“Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 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.” (Romans 6:3–4)

Who Should Be Baptized?

Every person who believes in Christ should be baptized. Believers realize their sin separates them from God. They conclude that Jesus Christ's death on the cross bridges the gap between them and God. Having decided to trust Christ alone for their salvation, they follow Christ in baptism as a symbol of their new life in Christ.

What About Children?

The New Testament shows no example of baptism when the person did not request it. All instances of baptism follow an individual's decision to trust Christ alone for their salvation (Acts 2:41, 8:12, 10:47-48). At Family Life Church we wait until the child is old enough to believe and understand the true meaning of baptism before we baptize them. When a child makes a decision for Christ, we gladly baptize them as a symbol of their faith in Christ.

What About Infant Baptism?

In the Bible we find parents bringing children to Jesus. He held them and prayed for them and told us to welcome them. But he did not baptize them, and he did not tell anyone to baptize them. Baptism is a public profession of salvation (as the Bible teaches), and only people who have intentionally received salvation should experience baptism.

If you have not experienced adult baptism, even though you have experienced baptism as an infant, the full meaning and significance of baptism has yet to take place in your life. We strongly encourage you to be baptized as an adult believer in Christ.

When Should I Be Baptized?

As soon as you have believed in Christ for salvation.

"But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." (Acts 8:12)

Should I Be Baptized Immediately After Salvation?

The Bible teaches that baptism should follow your decision to become a believer. There is no reason to delay. If you wait until you are "good" enough, you will never feel ready for baptism. Since baptism is not a part of your salvation but a symbol of it, it is ok to wait until the next scheduled baptism.

What Do I Wear?

Dress in clothes you don't mind getting wet! You should wear a dark shirt and shorts. Remember to bring a change of clothes to wear home. There is a changing room available. Please bring a towel. Arrive 30 minutes before the service is scheduled to begin for some last-minute instructions.

How Do I Register?

Register at Guest Services on Sunday or email the church at VerndaleFLC@gmail.com. Then we will contact you with our upcoming baptism service dates.

Verndale Family Life Church - Water Baptism Class

1st Step - Salvation

1. Is there anyone who has not sinned? . Romans 3:10
2. If we are all sinners, how do we know God really loves us? Romans5:8
3. How did He show His love? John 3:16
4. How does one accept Jesus as his Savior? Romans 10:9 & 10
5. Why can't I get into heaven by my own good works? Ephesians2:8&9
6. How can I know I am saved? I John 1:9
7. What is His promise to those who hear His Word and believe? John 5:24

MEMORIZE: Romans 3:23: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

2nd Step - Water Baptism

1. In regards to water baptism, what did Jesus do? Mark 1:9
2. What are we to do before being baptized? Acts
Acts 2:38 R_____
Acts 16:31 - Believe _____Christ.
3. How do we know when Jesus was baptized, that He was immersed?
Mark 1:10, Acts 8:38
Coming _____water,
4. What was the great commission Jesus gave the world before He left?
Matthew 28:19
5. How is immersion a type of the death and resurrection of Christ?
Colossians2:12

6. In the New Testament church how soon were they baptized after they became believers? Acts Paul—Acts 22:16
7. Water baptism is a public act of obedience and faith. What other action does Jesus expect of those who received baptism? Matthew 28:20

MEMORIZE: Romans 8:16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children

3rd Step - Holy Spirit Empowered Growth

1. John Baptized in water for repentance. He told us what about Jesus’ baptism? Matthew 3:11
2. What is the Baptism in the Holy Spirit for? Acts 1:8
3. Do I have the Holy Spirit when I get saved? Ephesians 1:13-14
4. How can you tell if a person is a Christian? Matthew 7:16-21
5. What are the Fruit of the Holy Spirit? Galatians 5:22-23

1) _____	2) _____	3) _____
4) _____	5) _____	6) _____
7) _____	8) _____	9) _____
6. What are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit? 1 Corinthians 12:27-31

1) _____	2) _____	3) _____
4) _____	5) _____	6) _____
7) _____		
7. Why would I want to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit? John 7:37-38
8. Is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit for everyone? Acts 2:38-39
9. Should I be open to be used in gifts of the Spirit when I experience the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

1 Corinthians 14:5 _____

1 Corinthians 14:39-40 _____

Now that you have accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, and are preparing to be baptized in water as a public demonstration of your repentance, why not pray to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit that God has in store for you!

My Testimony

As we get ready to baptize you in water. Salvation and repentance (turning) from your sin is necessary. Baptism in water is symbolic of your decision and a public testimony. We want to hear how God has changed your life and when it started. Please write a little of what God has been doing in your life. **A**dmit, **B**elieve, **C**onfess

When did you surrender your heart to Jesus? _____

What does it mean for you to be getting baptized?

Are you ready to allow God to work in and through you as you walk in His grace and mercy?

Your faith is something that must be grown through a daily walk with Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. What step are you taking in your life to stay close to God?

Use another piece of paper if you need more room.

Tank Baptism: On the day of baptism, we usually wait until near the end of the service and a queue will be given to go back-stage line up.

River Baptism: On the day of baptism, we will invite the church to join us at the designated baptism site. We will wait for everyone getting baptized to arrive before we begin.

Be prepared to answer a couple simple questions just before we baptize you in front of the other. This is a very exciting time and be prepared to celebrate the New You when you come up out of the water!

Please bring a change of clothes and at least one large towel. Please wear loose fitting clothes that are darker in color so they do not become see through. It is perfectly fine to wear your baptism clothes to church and then change into new clothes after.

We are very excited for you as this is an incredible day of celebration for you!!! Invite as many people to come and watch and celebrate with you as you can. Especially the one who usually would not come to church. This can speak powerfully to them!

Question: "What does the Bible say about infant baptism?"

Answer: There is much confusion about baptism in the various Christian denominations. However, this is not a result of the Bible presenting a confusing message on baptism. The Bible is abundantly clear of what baptism is, who it is for, and what it accomplishes. In the Bible, only believers who had placed their faith in Christ were baptized - as a public testimony of their faith and identification with Him (Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4). Water baptism by immersion is a step of obedience after faith in Christ. It is a proclamation of faith in Christ, a statement of submission to Him, and an identification with His death, burial, and resurrection.

With this in view, infant baptism is not a Biblical practice. An infant cannot place his or her faith in Christ. An infant cannot make a conscious decision to obey Christ. An infant cannot understand what water baptism symbolizes. The Bible does not record any infants being baptized. Infant baptism is the origin of the sprinkling and pouring methods of baptism - as it is unwise and unsafe to immerse an infant under water. Even the method of infant baptism fails to agree with the Bible. How does pouring or sprinkling illustrate the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ?

Many Christians who practice infant baptism do so because they understand infant baptism as the new covenant equivalent of circumcision. In this view, just as circumcision joined a Hebrew to the Abrahamic and Mosaic covenants, so baptism joined a person to the New Covenant of salvation through Jesus Christ. This view is unbiblical. The New Testament nowhere describes baptism as the New Covenant replacement for Old Covenant circumcision. The New Testament nowhere describes baptism as a sign of the New Covenant. It is faith in Jesus Christ that enables a person to enjoy the blessings of the New Covenant (1 Corinthians 11:25; 2 Corinthians 3:6; Hebrews 9:15).

Baptism does not save a person. It does not matter if you were baptized by immersion, pouring, or sprinkling - if you have not first trusted in Christ for salvation, baptism (no matter the method) is meaningless and useless. Water baptism by immersion is a step of obedience to be done after salvation as a public profession of faith in Christ and identification with Him. Infant baptism does not fit the Biblical definition of baptism or the Biblical method of baptism. If Christian parents wish to dedicate their child to Christ, then a baby dedication service is entirely appropriate. However, even if infants are dedicated to the Lord, when they grow up they will still have to make a personal decision to believe in Jesus Christ in order to be saved.

www.gotquestions.org

Question: "Is christening in the Bible?"

Answer: Christening is defined as "a Christian sacrament signifying spiritual cleansing and rebirth." The christening ceremony, usually done to small children and babies, and most common in Catholic and Episcopal churches, is more than simply infant baptism. The christening ceremony includes giving the baby his/her "Christian" name, sprinkling water on the head of the child, and welcoming him/her into the congregation. The ceremony can be private (family/friends only) or public (entire congregation.) Some parents prefer to make the christening a simple naming ceremony without committing the baby, or themselves, to the religion.

The concept of christening (literally "to bring to Christ") is a religious practice that developed gradually over the first couple hundred years of the church. Scripture teaches that all since the time of Adam have a sin nature, and because of that, individuals began thinking that there needed to be a method for cleansing an infant from their original sin. There is no biblical prohibition against christening an infant as a simple naming ceremony. If the ceremony involves baptism from sin, however, it is not biblical. As christening is something that is done to infants, and since infants are not capable of understanding sin or their need to be cleansed from it, christening is not scriptural.

The fact that all are born with a sin nature in need of a Savior is found in passages such as Psalm 51:5, "Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me" and Paul's teaching in Romans 5:12-21 that all people are in sin through Adam and can be forgiven of sin through faith in the Second Adam, or Jesus Christ.

In contrast, biblical baptism (the term literally means "to dip or plunge") is taught in the New Testament to be a step of obedience after a person has come to understand sin and its eternal consequences, their need to be saved from sin, and trusted Christ as their Savior. Notably, Jesus gave a command to His disciples in Matthew 28:19-20 about baptism. They were told to "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you. . ." The steps were to (1) make disciples (this happens when a person trusts Jesus Christ as their Savior; (2) baptize them (this is an outward step of obedience following inward faith); and (3) teach these disciples to follow God's commands.

The tradition of christening an infant is absent from the Scriptures, although there is no biblical prohibition against it. At best, this teaching can confuse individuals about what biblical baptism means, and at worst, it can leave people believing that if they were christened, they are already right before God, which may lead to their neglecting the recognition of their sin and subsequent need to trust in the finished work of Jesus Christ for salvation from sin.

www.gotquestions.org