

Welcome to the Family!

We are thrilled that you are following Jesus through this step of baptism! Your relationship with Jesus is the most important one you'll ever have as He leads you through adventures that form His character in you.

This packet provides you with helpful tools as you continue to grow in your relationship with Jesus. Here is what is included:

- **Scripture on Salvation and Baptism**

Here you will find a compilation of scripture about baptism explaining the reason to be baptized to help further your knowledge about baptism.

- **Tips for reading the Bible**

Reading the Bible and praying are two major ways God speaks to us. Whichever Bible reading plan you follow, a great strategy to use is **SOAP**: Read the **Scripture**, **Observe** what it says, **Apply** it to your life, and **Pray** that God will help you.

The most important thing you can do now is to “press on toward the goal” that Jesus calls us to (Philippians 3:14). Continue to read your Bible, pray, come to services (it’s “family time”), participate through Life Groups and/or various ministries, and listen to Jesus for the next steps of obedience to Him. Pick up a Life Group Directory from the Info Center to find out more about Life Groups.

As your local church family, our desire is to help you grow closer to Jesus in any way we can. Please feel free to call on us. You matter to God, and you matter to us!

Baptism Scriptures

Why get baptized?

Because Christ set the example:

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

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

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:13-17)

Because Christ said to do it:

Then Jesus came to them and said, “**All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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 28:18-20)

Because it demonstrates that someone is a believer:

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)

What is the meaning of baptism?

It illustrates Christ's 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 according to the Scriptures. (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, 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 2:11-12)

It illustrates a person's new life as a Christian:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Baptism Scriptures (continued)

Why get baptized by immersion?

Because Jesus was baptized that way.

See Matthew 3:13-17 above.

Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion.

The word *baptize* means *to go under* the water.

It best symbolizes a burial and resurrection.

Who should be baptized and when?

Everyone who has believed in Christ:

(Note that you believe and are saved first; then you are baptized for the reasons stated above.)

If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. (Romans 10:9-10)

Just as soon as a person has believed in Christ:

The eunuch [whom Philip had met on the road] asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet [Isaiah] talking about, himself or someone else?” Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. Why shouldn’t I be baptized?” And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. (Acts 8:34-38)

“The Romans Road” to Salvation in Christ

Romans 3:23-25a

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ⁽²⁴⁾ and are justified freely by his [God’s] grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ⁽²⁵⁾ God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood.

Romans 5:8-11

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁽⁹⁾ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him! ⁽¹⁰⁾ For if, when we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ⁽¹¹⁾ Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 6:23

The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:1-4

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ⁽²⁾ because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. ⁽³⁾ For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, ⁽⁴⁾ in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

Romans 10:9-10

If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ⁽¹⁰⁾ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Water Baptism Information

Name: _____ Birth Date ____/____/____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Today's date _____

Name of person you would like to baptize you

Please circle the service you would like to be baptized: 9:00 am 11:15 am 6:00 pm

Do you believe that Jesus is the resurrected Son of God, your Savior? Yes ___ No ___

Describe how and when you became a Christian. (See John 3:1-7, Romans 10:9-10, and I Peter 1:23.)

Describe your current spiritual growth with Jesus (see Galatians 5:22-23) and your ongoing spiritual disciplines (e.g. prayer, Bible study, journaling, etc.).

What do you think is the purpose of baptism?

Are you currently involved in a Life Group or currently attending any Life Center ministries (e.g. Higher Ground, Mosaic, Young Marrieds, Women's Ministries, etc.)? If so, which one(s)?

Would you like to be contacted about getting involved in any Life Center Ministries or a Life Group? If so, which one(s)?

Please mail this to Life Center, 1202 N Government Way, Spokane, WA 99224.
You may also fax it to 327-0822, turn it in at the Information/Resource Center after a service, or bring it with you to the Baptism Class. Thank you!



Kids' Baptism Information
(One per child... Please Print)

Parent Name(s) _____ **Date** _____

Child's Name _____ Birth Date _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

Who will actually be baptizing your child (if not a pastor)?

_____ Service Time: 9 11:15 6

Briefly describe how your child became a Christian...

Do you believe your child understands the "basics" of the Gospel (Jesus is the resurrected Son of God, our Savior, and the only true way to a relationship with Father God and heaven)?