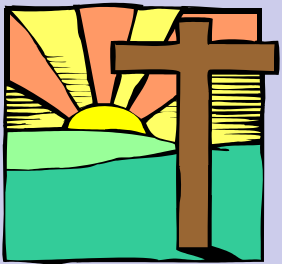


INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR BAPTISM

1. Invite family and friends to come to church the day of your baptism. This is a great way to influence them to live for Christ.
2. Come to church wearing what you will be baptized in. Bring a towel, a change of clothes, and any personal toiletries (and a hair dryer if you like.) You will get completely wet.
3. Be sure to wear clothes you can't see through when wet..
4. Baptisms are held in the main auditorium during a Sunday morning service approximately after the 2nd song in the worship set..
5. Call the church office to set up a Sunday for your baptism.



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Dothan Vineyard
Church

Water Baptism



"Jesus said, Go then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples, baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and then teach them to obey everything I have commanded you."

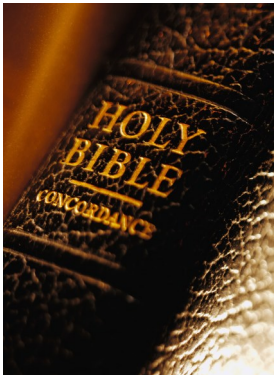
Matthew 28:19-20

Water Baptism

WATER BAPTISM

According to the N.T.

WHY BE BAPTIZED?



Use your Bible and look up all the scripture references.

1. Because you want to follow Christ's example. Mk 1:9
2. Because Christ Comanded it. Matt. 28:19-20
3. Because it shows you are a believer. Acts 18:8

4. Because obeying Christ's command shows you know Him. 1 John 2:5

THE MEANING OF BAPTISM

1. It is a symbol of Christ's burial and resurrection. 1 Cor. 15:3,4 Col. 2:12
2. It is a symbol of your new life as a Christian. 2 Cor. 5:17 Rom. 6:4 Baptism does not make you a believer, it shows that you already are one! Baptism does not 'save' you, only your faith in Christ saves you. Baptism is like a wedding ring. It's the outward symbol of the commitment you made in your heart. Eph. 2:8,9
3. Empowerment of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will come upon you in a new way. Matt 3:16

HOW ARE WE TO BE BAPTISED . . .

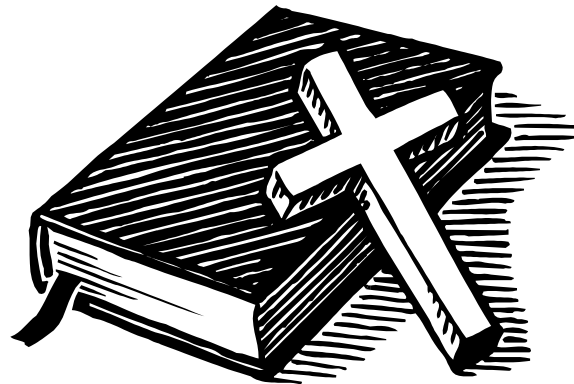
1. Like Jesus was baptized . . . By being immersed in water. Matt. 3:16
2. Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion under water. Acts 8:38,39
3. The word 'baptize' literally means 'to dip under water.' The Greek word 'baptize' means to 'immerse or dip under water.'
4. It is the best way to picture a burial and resurrection, which baptism represents.

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Every person who has made the decision to believe in Jesus Christ and follow Him as Lord of their Life. Acts 2:41 Acts 8:15 The one requirement for water baptism is belief in Jesus Christ. We do not baptize children until they are old enough to understand and believe.

WHEN ARE WE TO BE BAPTIZED?

As soon as you have believed. You shouldn't delay. Acts 2:41 says "Those who believed . . . Were baptized . . . That day." Read Acts 8:36-38



WHAT ABOUT BEING BAPTISED TWICE?

If your previous baptism was as a child or if you were baptized a long time ago and since then you adopted a non Christian lifestyle, our church recommends that you be baptized again *if you have not been baptized by immersion since you made a new commitment to Christ.* It doesn't devalue a prior experience but simply reflects your desire to start a brand new walk with God, with a new commitment to Christ and a new understanding of what it means to be a Christian.

CAN A FAMILY BE BAPTIZED TOGETHER?

Yes! If each family member understands fully the meaning of baptism, and each one has personally placed his/her trust in Christ for salvation, we encourage families to be baptized at the time. It is a wonderful expression of commitment.

WILL I HAVE TO SAY ANTHING?

Not if you absolutely do not want to. However, Pastor will give you an opportunity to give a very brief testimony of how your life has changed since giving your heart to Christ. We would like you to share how Christ has changed your life.

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