



Baptism at Journey Church Ventura

The Best Decision in the World

Your salvation is not dependent upon your baptism. You are already Saved!

Romans 10:9-10

⁹ If you declare 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 profess your faith and are saved.

- Confess: Jesus is Lord
- Believe: God raised Jesus from the dead

We Baptize to Follow Jesus' Example and Command

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. ¹⁴ But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

¹⁵ Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

¹⁶ 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 alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

The Symbolism of Baptism

Death and Resurrection

- Dead to sin – down in the water.
- Alive in Christ – coming out of the water.

Baptism is a Public Declaration

Acts 2:38

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be **baptized**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were **baptized**, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

**Baptism is an outward declaration of an inward experience.
You are saved, I am saved.**

FAQ:

What if I was baptized as an infant? - Similar to what we call baby dedication some people are baptized as a child. We are glad your parents valued your relationship with God enough to have you baptized. We also believe it is valuable that you as an individual go public with your faith at some point in time in your faith journey. That's why we have no problem with you choosing to get baptized again. Is it time for you to make your *own* declaration?

Can I be re-baptized? Some people go through times in their faith journey that cause them to fall away and grow cold in their relationship with Jesus. Once they come back and renew that relationship with Jesus, it is never bad to make a new public declaration of faith and commitment to Jesus through water baptism. Sometimes refreshing your faith is the best statement to move your faith journey forward.

I was sprinkled as a child. Why should I be immersed under water? The symbolism of death to life is the understanding of our tradition, and what we believe happened in scripture. The most important part of the baptism experience is going public with your faith.