

# Belivers' Baptism – Public Declarations of Faith

We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Jesus Christ was raised from the death through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. (Romans 6:4)

- > Baptism doesn't make you a believer—it shows that you already believe.
- Baptism doesn't save you—your faith in Christ does.
- > Baptism of infants is not practiced as they are not able to make a declaration of faith.

Baptism into the name of God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) gives one's allegiance to Him, to commit oneself to follow their leadership, to learn and to honour them. Through baptism God gives grace and new life and incorporates them into Christ's body.

It is a symbolic public act that a person is participating in Christ's death, burial and resurrection and openly identifying with the Kingdom of God with Christ as Lord.

## Why be baptised as a public declaration of faith?

1. It follows example of Jesus himself who was baptised by John.

At that time, Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan (Mark 1:9)

## 2. Jesus commanded it as part of the Great Commission.

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising 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 end of the age. (Matthew 28:19-20)

## 3. You identify yourself publicly with Christ and His church:

Those who accepted his message were baptised. (Acts 2:31)

But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus they were baptised both men and women. (Acts 8:12)

#### Other public declarations of faith

At TBC, we recognise other forms of public declaration of faith, for example, confirmation. People who have undertaken these forms are not excluded from communion, membership, leadership or service in the church.

#### When can I be baptised?

You may approach the pastors or elders of the church at any time to ask to be baptised.