

CHAPTER

5

# water baptism

*Citipointe*  
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Christian Foundation Series  
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Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.

Acts 2:38a (NIV)

Baptism means to “dip” or to “immerse”. Total immersion in water is the means of baptism according to the Word of God. Sprinkling or christening is not found in scripture and neither replicates the significance of biblical baptism.

**Baptism is a sign of a changed IDENTITY**

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

Baptism is a public demonstration of your salvation.

In the waters of baptism you are symbolically passing through Christ's death, burial and resurrection and entering into a new measure of life

in God. Through this process we supernaturally receive newness of life, a life that can be lived for the glory of the Father.

## Baptism is a sign of a changed nature

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Galatians 3:27

When you are water baptized it is a sure sign that Christ is within you and that you are clothed with His righteousness. You have become His child and His nature begins to develop within you.

## Baptism is. . .

### Permanent

It is only required once and is a sign of a permanent change in a person's life.

### Personal

This is not just a religious ritual or ceremonial routine . . . rather it should be a sign of one's personal commitment to Christ when they

are ready and of age to make such a decision for themselves.

### Powerful

It's you identifying with the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, the most powerful event in human history! It's an essential step in the life of every Christian.

### Public

It's something to be done in the presence of others, as if to publicly say, "I am committed, I am in, I am not turning back, celebrate with me because this is the first day of the rest of my life!"

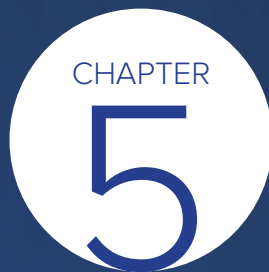
When you're ready, make arrangements for your water baptism and invite your friends and family.

A water baptism is something that can take place in the church baptism tank, in a local river, at the beach, or even a backyard swimming pool. Christ intentionally made it as simple as possible for people to take this step in their discipleship..

So, take the plunge . . . heaven is cheering you on.



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## Scripture References:

1 Peter 3:21	Matthew 3:6
1 John 5:6a	1Corinthians 15:29
Romans 6:3	Mark 10:38
Galatians 3:7	Luke 3:12
Luke 3:21	Acts 8:36
John 4:2	1 Peter 3:21
	Colossians 2:12

# what's next

