



CHURCH ON THE ROCK  
*Alaska*

# BAPTISM



## So, you want to be Baptized?

We are excited that you are considering being baptized as a public declaration of what God is doing in your life. Let's explore what baptism is, why we are baptized, and how God can use *you* to tell others about Him.

There are two requirements before a person is baptized:

- 1) you must trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior
- 2) you should understand what baptism signifies.



Say yes!

Have you said, "Yes" to Jesus? Have you put your faith in Jesus, and decided to follow Him? That's the first step. If you have placed your faith in Jesus, and decided to follow Him, you are what the Bible calls a "new creation."

### 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Baptism is a beautiful picture of being raised to new life. It doesn't make you a believer; it shows that you **already believe**. Baptism is like a wedding ring; it's the outward symbol of the commitment you made in your heart.

## What is baptism?

Christian baptism is an public declaration of what has happened inwardly in a believer's life. It symbolically illustrates Christ's death, burial and resurrection.

### 1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4

...that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

Being immersed in the water symbolizes the death of our “old self”, burying it with Christ. Coming out of the water represents us being raised to new life as a christian.

#### **ROMANS 6:3-4**

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

### **Why Should I be Baptized?**

It is always good to look at the examples Christ gave us through His actions and teachings when making decisions on our journey of faith. Here are some of the “whys” behind baptism.

**We follow Christ’s example:** Jesus himself is baptized by his cousin, John the Baptist.

#### **MARK 1:9**

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

**Jesus commanded it:** When Jesus sent out the disciples, He commanded them to baptize new disciples.

#### **MATTHEW 28:19**

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.


**Show you are a follower of Christ:** We publicly join other believers by being baptized as we join the family of God.

#### **ACTS 2:41**

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

## Why Does it Have to be Public?

It's a celebration! People love to hear good news. If your life has been transformed by God, that's worth sharing! Think about how important that is, and think about how many people need to hear about it.



Who do you  
want to tell?

By sharing your baptism with the family of God, you invite others to partner with you as you grow spiritually. By sharing your baptism with your friends and family that do not know God, you are sharing the story of God's goodness in your life. Your story is powerful and can lead others into wanting that same experience.

## What to Expect

The Greek word βαπτίζω (**baptizo**) literally means to plunge, submerge or immerse. You will be completely submerged in water and immediately brought back out again as we celebrate your new life in Christ. As you follow Jesus in the act of baptism, our prayer for you is that you would also:

- have a revelation of heaven being opened up to you
- encounter the Holy Spirit just like Jesus did
- know the favor of God

### **MATTHEW 3:16-17**

And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Ready to take step into the waters of baptism? Contact your local campus and sign up to be baptized. We want to celebrate what the Lord is doing in your life with you!