

Go H₂O!

“The ‘ize’ in Baptize”

Acts 18:8: “Crispus, the synagogue ruler, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized.”

Matt. 3:6: “Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him [John the Baptist] in the Jordan River.”

What Does Baptism Symbolize?

1. Immersion.

- **Acts 8:38b:** “Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.”
- **Acts 22:16:** “...what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.”

2. Identification.

- **Gal. 3:26-28:** “You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus,²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”
- **Rom. 6:3-4:** “...don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?⁴ 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.”

3. Initiation.

- **Luke 3:21-23:** “When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: ‘You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.’²³ Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry.”

4. Invitation.

- **Acts 2:38-39:** “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.”