BAPTISM REQUEST FORM

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We are so glad you desire to be baptized! People at Danube International Church come from various denominational backgrounds with different points of view of baptism. The information below should help you understand Danube’s biblical point of view whether you are new to the Christian faith or you have been a Christian for some time but simply have not yet been baptized.

Please read all the information in this document and then complete the questions below. If you have any question please contact Rich Millhouse, rich.millhouse@efca.org.

This information is important to us in communicating with you as we prepare for your baptism. Please check your email often as this is how we will often correspond.

I have read and understand the **Baptism Study Guide.**

I have completed the **Baptism Questionnaire.**

I feel that I am ready to be baptized and meet with a leader at Danube.

I would like to be baptized during the service on ☐ May 30.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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BAPTISM STUDY GUIDE

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**WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?**

All who have trusted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior should be

baptized. It is an expression of one’s faith in Jesus Christ, trusting in the

person and work of Jesus Christ.

**ESSENTIAL BELIEFS ABOUT THE PERSON OF JESUS:**

1. **Jesus is God.**

**John 1:1** - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

**2. Jesus became a man.**

**John 1:14** - "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

**Philippians 2:7** - “but [Jesus] made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men…”

**3. Jesus is the only way to Heaven.**

**John 14:6** - Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

**Acts 4:12** - “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other

name under heaven given among men by which we must be

saved.”

**ESSENTIAL BELIEFS ABOUT THE WORK OF JESUS:**

1. **Jesus lived a perfectly obedient life.**

**Hebrews 4:15** - “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.”

**2. Jesus died as a substitute for me.**

**1 Peter 3:18** - “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.”

**3. Jesus rose from the grave.**

**Romans 10:9** - “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

**1 Corinthians 15:17** - “And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.”

**WHAT BAPTISM MEANS AND DOESN’T MEAN:**

Baptism is a symbol of the salvation that has already taken place in your life. Baptism does not save you; only faith in Jesus Christ can save you.

Baptism is an outward sign that a person has entered into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

It symbolizes what takes place inwardly at the time of salvation:

•Acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior

•Sharing in His death and resurrection

•Being symbolically washed clean

•Identifying yourself as part of his Church (the Christian faith)

Because Jesus instructed us to be baptized, baptism is also an act of obedience. While it is not necessary for salvation, it demonstrates submission to God.

A good way to understand baptism is to look at a wedding ring. A wedding ring is worn by people who’ve committed their life in marriage to their spouse. The ring doesn’t make them married but shows a reality (lifelong devotion to each other) that was publicly declared on their wedding day. So it is with baptism. Baptism doesn’t save you. It shows that your salvation in Jesus Christ has taken place and that you are declaring your participation in and accountability to the body of Christ, the church.

**THE “WHEN” OF BAPTISM:**

Baptism is often referred to as your “first step of obedience” following acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Therefore, we encourage you to be baptized at the earliest possible opportunity.

**Acts 8:35-38** - “Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water: Why shouldn’t I be baptised?” And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.”

**Acts 2:41** – “Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.”

**THE “WHY” OF BAPTISM:**

Christ Commanded It.

**Matthew 28:19-20** – “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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

It Follows Christ’s Example.

**Mark 1:9-10** – “At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.”

It’s A Public Profession of Your Faith.

**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.”

**THE “HOW” OF BAPTISM:**

The Greek word for baptism, *baptizo*, literally means to immerse or dunk, and this is the word used to describe Jesus’ own baptism by John the Baptist. Because Jesus modeled this act for us, we baptize by immersion. The Bible gives us the method of baptism in the baptism of Jesus. Colossians 2:12 –“ For when you were baptized you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ.”

**WHAT ABOUT OTHER METHODS OF BAPTISM?**

Danube International Church accepts other methods of baptism, such

as sprinkling or pouring, for medical reasons limiting the ability of immersion.

Baptism Questionnaire

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1. State briefly how and when you accepted Christ as your Savior:

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2. Share how your life has changed since accepting Christ as your Savior:

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3. In your own words, briefly describe your understanding of baptism.

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4. Why do you want to be baptized?

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BAPTISM DAY PREPARATION AND INFORMATION

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ARRIVAL TIME & LOCATION

Please plan on meeting in the room to the right of the stage at least 30 minutes before the service at 10:00 a.m. Please remember your baptism is a scheduled part of the service.

CLOTHING

Please wear shorts or swimming trunks for your baptism. Additionally, bring a bag to put your wet clothes into as well as a towel and dry clothes to change into.

SPIRITUAL PREPARATION

1. Take time to search God’s Word on baptism. One suggestion might be to read and meditate on Romans 6.

a. Romans 6:1-11 (the meaning of baptism)

b. Romans 16:12-23 (how this should affect the way I live)