

# BAPTISM

— *What is it all about?* —





## A Note To Parents

We are so excited about your child's interest in being baptized. We see baptism as an act of obedience to the Lord, which should naturally follow as your child, who has accepted Christ as their Savior, matures in their understanding of Scripture and its teaching on following Jesus. Baptism is for believers. It is not a way for parents to secure their child's salvation. We want to assist you, as well as your child, in understanding baptism before your child requests to be baptized. This workbook is a tool you use, with your child, to help them understand what baptism is and if they are ready to be baptized.

The booklet is to be completed at home. It could take 2 or 3 sessions to finish. We think it will be most beneficial if you work on the assignments together, perhaps as a special devotional time. Encourage your child to discover the answers to the questions by themselves. You, the parents, should simply act as guides. In this way, you will be able to determine your child's readiness for this important step. Baptism should not be urged on children before they understand its significance. Many people who were baptized as very young children wish they had waited until they were older and understood more about what they were doing. Additionally, to baptize a child who is not certain they have been saved could result in the child having a false security in their relationship with Jesus.

If you have questions about the workbook or anything else related to your child's baptism, do not hesitate to contact us by calling the office or emailing us at [kelli.williams@bridgebiblechurch.com](mailto:kelli.williams@bridgebiblechurch.com).

Thank you for sharing the joy of helping your child take this significant step of obedience. It is our desire to see our students become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

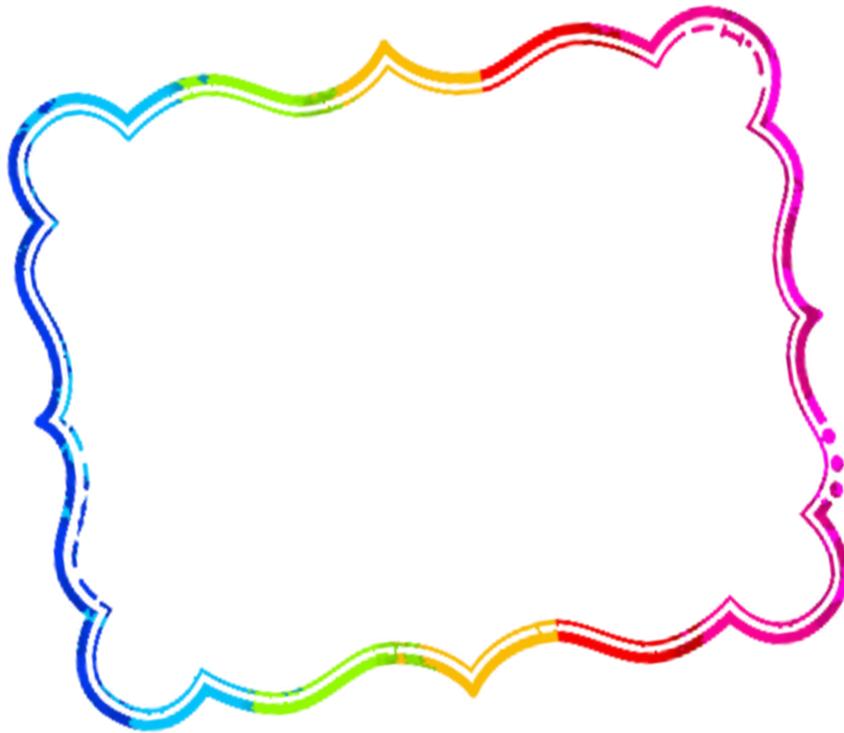
Kelli Williams

Kids Crossing Director

# Dear Student...

Your mom and dad and your church family have been watching you grow and change over the years. Remember when you used to love to ride on your dad's shoulders, or be pushed high on your swings in the backyard? Remember when your shaggy teddy bear was your best friend or dressing up for a pretend tea party was so much fun? You've changed so much, not just in what you look like, but also in what you like to do and in how you think.

Take a moment and recall one of your favorite activities when you were very small. You can tell it to Mom or Dad, or draw it in the box below.



Just as you have changed physically and socially, you have grown in what you know about God and in your desire to follow Him. That is why we are looking at the topic of baptism together. Jesus commanded that Christians be baptized as an act of obedience to Him and as a public expression of their faith to family and friends.



Look up these verses and discover what they teach about baptism:

**Acts 2:38-39**

In the very first church, what were people told to do to become Christian?

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**Acts 18:8**

Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, and everyone in his house were baptized after they.....

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You can see the Bible makes it very clear that baptism is for those who repent because they are sorry for their sins, and who then choose to believe in Jesus. Our church believes that baptism is not something for babies. Baptism is not for moms and dads to do for their kids. Baptism is an activity an individual does for himself out of obedience to Christ's command once they have accepted Christ as Savior.



The most important question for you to answer as you consider baptism is...

**Are you a Christian?**

**Look up these verses and write down an answer for the question.**

**(Romans 3:23)** Who has sinned?

**(Romans 6:23)** Sin separates us from God. What should the penalty be for sin?

**(Romans 5:8)** Even though we deserved punishment, what did Jesus do instead?

**(Romans 10:9-10)** What do we need to do to become a Christian (be saved)?

You see, a Christian is not just someone who believes in God.

A Christian is someone who...

- knows they are a sinner and believes that Jesus died on the cross to forgive their sins.
- Asks Jesus to forgive their sins and chooses to follow Him .



Now, think  
about yourself.

Place an X in the box

I am a Christian. I know because:

Please write the date and place when you asked Jesus to forgive your sins and you made the choice to become a Christian (if you know the time and the place).

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

I am not a Christian, but I want to be.

You can become a Christian right now! Use your own words to pray...

- ADMIT to Jesus that you have sinned.
- Tell Jesus that you BELIEVE that He is God's only son and that he died on the cross to take your sins away.
- CONFESS your faith in Jesus as your Savior and Lord.



Now that we know you are ready for baptism, let's talk about what baptism is and why we get baptized.



**First of all, the Bible commands believers to be baptized.**

Check out Matthew 28:19. These were some of Jesus' last words to His disciples before He went back to heaven. That makes them very important words. What were the disciples to do?

1. G\_\_
2. M\_\_ \_\_ \_\_ disciples
3. B\_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ them
4. T\_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ them to obey my commands



**Jesus, Himself was baptized as an example  
for us to follow.**

**Read about this in Mark 1:9-11:**

Who baptized Jesus?

Where was He baptized?

How do we know God, His Father, was pleased?





### **The Bible teaches that baptism is a symbol of 3 things.**

1. It is a picture of being washed clean from sin. Look up Titus 3:5 to read about this.
  
2. It is an identification with Christ's death and resurrection. Look up Romans 6:3-5. From these verses, what are these parts of baptism compared to:
  - a. Going under the water... D \_ \_ \_ \_
  
  - b. Coming out of the water... R \_ S \_ \_ \_ \_ T \_ \_ N
  
3. It connects us with other believers in the church. Read I Corinthians 12:13. What is another name for the church in these verses?



### **The Reason We Baptize The Way We Do**

In the Bible, the word baptism comes from the Greek word "baptizo." It means "to dip" or "to wash, plunge, or submerge." At our church, the pastor usually baptizes people by putting them totally under the water. Based on what you have already learned, why do you think this method makes sense? Give at least 2 reasons:

- 1.
  
- 2.

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# TEAM JESUS

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Many of you are on some kind of team: ball teams, soccer, cheer teams, debate teams or dance teams.

Name the team you participate on or name one you wish you were on.

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List 2 rules your coach requires of the players to make sure the team is successful:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Once you have chosen to identify with Jesus' team, there are disciplines He requires to help you be a better player. Match the reference with the activity required by our "Coach" - Jesus.

I Peter 3:15

God wants us to obey.

John 15:14

God wants us to go to church.

Joshua 1:8

God wants us to pray.

Hebrews 10:24-25

God wants us to study His Word.



If you have completed this book and wish to be baptized your parent can contact the church office or speak directly to Pastor Dave.

Pastor Dave will want to meet with you to talk about baptism and make sure you are ready. Bring this book with you when you meet him and you can discuss what you have learned. After your meeting a date will be set up for your baptism.

Here is the contact information you will need.

Pastor Dave Dickson  
[dave@bridgebiblechurch.com](mailto:dave@bridgebiblechurch.com)

Bridge Bible Church  
330-676-1972

## For your Baptism...

1. Bring (or wear) the clothes in which you will be baptized. Girls may wish to wear a one-piece bathing suit underneath a shirt and shorts. Boys may wish to wear shorts and a shirt. Everyone should wear dark clothes (no white shirts).
2. Bring a plastic bag to take home your wet clothes.
3. Bring a towel to dry off.
4. Bring a comb or brush.
5. Be prepared to share your testimony. We may ask you to answer these questions
  - What is your name?
  - How old are you?
  - Share something about yourself. (Most kids talk about what grade they are in and where they go to school)
  - Have you asked Jesus to forgive you of your sins and have you chosen to follow Jesus? We will ask you to share about when & how you asked Jesus into your heart.
  - I want to get baptized today because...
7. Do not be surprised if people clap following baptism. It is a happy experience for every Christian when someone publicly identifies himself/herself as a follower of Jesus by being baptized. The other Christians who are witnessing your baptism are only trying to encourage you.