

Baptism Agreement

The decision to be baptized is a significant one, as it is a clear indicator that someone is choosing to publicly identify with Christ and His church. Jesus himself was the one who initiated the practice of baptism as a sign of the new covenant that God had made with his people through Christ. Furthermore, Jesus is the one who commanded his disciples to baptize any person who put their faith in Christ for salvation (Matt. 28:18-20), and he is also the one who authorizes the church to use its role and authority to publicly receive and remove individuals from the visible church (Matt. 16:13-20, 18:18-20).

Because of this, there needs to be an understanding of both what baptism means and what baptism implies, both for the Christian being baptized as well as for the church. This agreement indicates the understanding that through baptism a person is self-identifying with Christ and his church, and also the understanding that there is a new relationship and responsibility that both the church and believer have to one another.

Through Baptism I am agreeing to the following:

I agree and publicly profess that I am a Christian. I have acknowledged my sin and my need for a Savior. I have placed my faith in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of my sin and He is now Lord of my life (Acts 2:38).

I agree that I need to be growing as a Christian. This includes discipleship through the church and regular participation in the gathering of the church both in Sunday corporate worship and weekly in Youth Group and small groups. I will prioritize gathering with the church in my life over other things. (Following baptism you will be connected to a discipler in the church who will help you in the next steps of growth.) (Heb. 10:23-25, Acts 2:42-47)

I agree that I am no longer my own, but I now belong to Christ. Therefore, I will use my gifts and abilities to not only serve myself, but to serve others in and outside the church as God gives me opportunity. (Romans 12:1-21, 1 Peter 4:10)

I agree that I am an ambassador of Jesus Christ, and I represent Christ to this community. This means that my life not only reflects upon me, but now upon Christ and his church. I understand that for the glory of Christ I need to live in manner that reflects my Lord and Savior. I am committed to helping the church fulfill the great commission by both living out and proclaiming the gospel in and through my life (Eph. 4:1-3).

I agree I need to be under the accountability of the church. This means that now I will be accountable for my actions both to my parents and to the church body. I recognize that this church family has the responsibility to lovingly correct me when necessary, following the commands of the Lord in Matt. 18:15-17. I also recognize the elders of Grace will give an account to the Lord for how they shepherd the church and so I agree to willingly come under the loving care and direction of the elders. (Heb 13:17). I also agree that when I turn 18 I will pursue becoming a member of Grace or another Bible-believing church for my growth and accountability.

I affirm all of the (preceding/above) statements

Name: _____ Date: _____