

BAPTISM

*And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” ~ Matthew 28:18-20 ESV*

Baptizing people is about establishing them into their new Trinitarian Identity.

God is our Father and we are His

Family *We are children of God who care for each other as a family.*

We are God's chosen people – His family – set apart to live in such a way that the world would know what he is like. Through faith in Jesus we believe we are Children of God and brothers and sisters with each other. As God's family we see it as our obligation to personally care for the needs of one another – both physically and spiritually. We disciple, nurture and hold each other accountable to Gospel life together. (Genesis 12:1-3; John 1:12-13; Romans 12:10-16)

Jesus is our Lord and we are His

Servants *We are servants of Jesus who serve Him by serving others.*

Fully God & fully human, Jesus took on the posture of a servant. He gave his life, even unto death, so that others could experience salvation, peace and restoration. Jesus said, “I am among you as one who serves...” All those who follow Jesus are called to serve in the same humility. For us this means joyfully submitting to Jesus as Lord, to the leaders he has placed over us and to each other as we also serve whomever God brings into our lives. We do whatever He leads us to do. (Matthew 20:25-28; 25:31-46; John 13:1-17; Philippians 2:5-11; 1 Peter 2:16)

The Holy Spirit is our Guide and Sender and we are His

Missionaries *We are sent by the Spirit to restore all things to God through Jesus Christ.*

God sent Jesus to Earth to take on human form and live within the culture. He lived in such a way that those around him could see and experience what God was truly like. Jesus came so all people, places and things could be restored to a right relationship with God. In the same way, we believe we are missionaries sent by God's Spirit into our culture to restore all things to God through Jesus. We live this out through involvement in a missional community. (John 1:14; 20:21; Colossians 1:19; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21)

If you'd like to get baptized, please talk to your Gospel Community leader or an Elder.

BAPTISM FAQ's

Frequently Asked Questions about Baptism.

Who should be baptized?

Every baptism in the New Testament is preceded by repentance of sin and faith in Jesus (Acts 22:16). In other words, only Christians who have repented of sin and have trusted in Jesus should be baptized. Therefore, all non-Christians and children too young to demonstrate repentance and articulate faith should be excluded.

What is Baptism?

Baptism is a public identification with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Romans 6:4). Going down into the water symbolizes the death of Jesus and the death of sin in our lives. Coming up out of the water symbolizes the resurrection of Jesus and our new life in him. By being baptized, you are participating in the church's work of fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).

When should I be baptized?

When we repent of our sin, trust in Jesus Christ for our salvation, we should be baptized (Acts 2:41; 22:16). Why wait? Like the Ethiopian that the Apostle Philip met on the road said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" (Acts 8:36) Some traditions encourage a long drawn out process of discipleship prior to baptism, but we don't. If you want to be baptized, please talk to your Gospel Community leader or an Elder.

Where should I be baptized?

Wherever there is water. In Campbell River, where there is plenty of water, we typically will hit up the ocean, river or lake & invite as many people as we can to come and witness you becoming a part of our family.

Why should I be baptized?

Jesus commanded that all Christians be baptized (Matthew 28:18-20). There really is nothing magical about baptism...baptism isn't something that we do to earn our salvation at all, but the symbol of baptism into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is of great value (see over). It symbolizes your receiving of a new identity in the Father, Son & Holy Spirit as part of our family, a servant together with us and missionary sent to bring the good news to this world. Its a symbol of being baptized into the body of Christ—the Church worldwide—and grounds us in a common fellowship.

How should I be baptized?

We want to follow in the pattern of the early church in Acts where baptism was for people who believed and was done by full immersion into water wherever possible. Being completely immersed in water is the picture and symbol of identification with Jesus in his death and burial. Being raised back up out of the water is the picture and symbol of identification with Jesus in his resurrection (Romans 6:4).

**If you've come from another tradition where baptism is of another mode (like sprinkling or pouring), and you were baptized as a believer, lets chat. If you were "baptized" prior to confession of faith (like as an infant), we will encourage you to be baptized as an adult believer.*

Who
What
When
Where
Why
How