

Q. WHAT IS IT?

A. Baptism is a 'sacrament',
Sacrament is just a posh word we use which is, defined as "an external rite or sign, which in some way conveys grace to believers" this just means an outward sign of an inward change to follow Jesus. What this means is that Baptism is an external way of showing that you have decided to follow Jesus. By going under the water and reappearing, you're leaving your old ways behind and starting afresh with God. Jesus refers to this as being born again (John 3v5), putting God first and honouring him in all your ways.

Q. WHY DO WE DO IT?

A: For many reasons:

1. JESUS DID IT!

Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist in the river Jordan before being led into the wilderness for 40 days by the spirit. John the Baptist was the first to start doing it in the bible Luke 3v3 "*He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.*"

2. JESUS TOLD US TO DO IT!

In Matthew 28v19 "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"

3. PETER TOLD US TO DO IT!

In Acts 2v38 Peter says, "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."

WHAT MORE OF A REASON DO WE NEED ☺

Q. WHO IS IT FOR?

A. It for EVERYONE! Young, old, lame, healthy and all others!
Matthew 28v19-20 "*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*"

Q. WHEN DO WE DO IT?

A. Immediately: once you believe, be baptised.

Acts 8v36-38 "As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptised?' ³⁸ And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptised him."

If you believe that Jesus is who he said he is and you are sorry for the bad things you have done, there shouldn't be anything that stands in the way.

Q. WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO DO?

A. Repent and Believe

During your baptism you would be asked these questions

1. Do you love the Lord Jesus?
2. Is it your intention to follow Jesus to the best of your ability in the power of the Holy Spirit?

If you would answer yes to all those questions then you can be baptised.

A lot of people invite family and friends to witness their baptism, it's often a time to celebrate together!

Q. WHAT WILL HAPPEN ON THE DAY?

A. You will get dunked.

Most churches will ask you to give a short testimony of how you came to the point you are at now (of wanting to be baptised).

After giving your testimony you will be asked those 2 questions and the minister will say "I baptise you in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit", as they dunk you under the water. At which point everyone will clap, you will then be prayed for.

If you have any other questions speak to Sarah, Dave or Sam, or someone who has been baptised.

So You're Thinking about Baptism?

In this booklet we try to answer the questions you may have about Baptism before you take the plunge. Answer questions like:

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Gordano Valley Church