

UNDERSTANDING WATER BAPTISM AT OASIS

IT IS... AN ACT OF OBEDIENCE

- Being baptized in water does not make us a Christian. We become Christians when we repent of our sin and receive Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord. (Luke. 24:47; John 1:12)
- Water baptism is an important step of obedience. (Matthew 3:13-16; Acts 9:18; 10:47-48; Mark 16:15-16)

IT IS... AFTER SALVATION

- Water baptism should come after we are "born again" (John 3:3). There is not a single example in the Bible of baptism before someone receives salvation through Jesus Christ. The New Testament model is to believe and then be baptized (Acts 2:38-41).
- Infant water baptism or sprinkling is not practiced in the Bible and can mislead people to equate salvation with baptism.

IT IS... SYMBOLIC

- Romans 6:3-4 says, "don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?... in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead... we too may live a new life." (Romans 4:9-12)
- Just as Christ died and was buried, we show we have died to our old way of life (sinful nature) and are burying it when we are immersed in water. Just as Jesus was raised from the dead to live forever, we show we have been raised to a new life in Him when we come out of the water. It is a symbolic word picture of our new life in Christ.

IT IS... A PLEDGE

- 1 Peter 3:21 says, "this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,"
- The physical act of water baptism is an outward expression of an inward pledge by us to live our lives for and before God, just as the wedding ceremony is a formal expression of an inward commitment of a man and woman to each other for life.

IT IS... BY FULL IMMERSION

- The word BAPTISM comes from the Greek 'baptizo', which means to immerse, dip or plunge.
- The two baptisms described in the Bible are by full immersion. (Matthew 3:13-17; Acts 8:30-39)

When following the Lord Jesus in water baptism you are being obedient to what God has called you to do in Matthew 28:19. We make water baptism available after every Sunday service and encourage you to take this step as soon as you can once you have put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Just call the office at 270-7777 and let us know you are ready to be baptized.

***Please note that it is our policy that a child should be at least 8 years old to be baptized in water.