

RENO CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

So you're interested in baptism?

That is incredibly exciting and we are looking forward to celebrating with you! This baptism handout is designed to help you understand what baptism is and why we practice it as Christians. You will also find questions and Bible verses at the end of this document. Please spend some time reading through the passages and answering the questions before your

What is baptism?

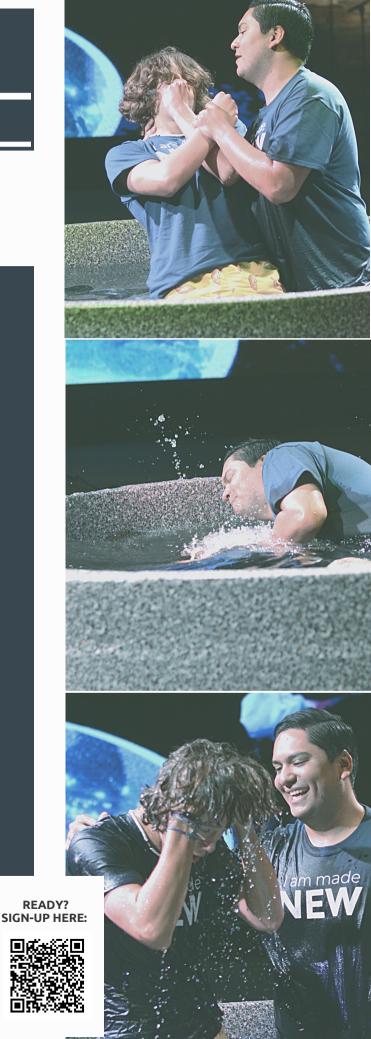
Baptism is something Jesus instructed His followers to do, showing externally the saving work He has done inside of them. (Matt. 28:19-20; Rom. 6:3-4) In baptism, as we go under the water, we are identifying with the death and burial of Jesus as He took the punishment for our sins. When we come out of the water, we are identifying with His resurrection and new life. Baptism is our act of obedience to Jesus. It does not save us but is a choice to publicly identify with WHO saved us.

"We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the Glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." - Romans 6:4

Why do we practice baptism?

Not only do we see Jesus instruct His followers to baptize those who come to faith, but we see them continue to do so all throughout the New Testament. We believe it is a practice that Jesus intended for His followers until His return.

"But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." - Acts 8:12



When should I get baptized?

The next chance you get! When the Ethiopian became a follower of Jesus in Acts 8, he came across a body of water and said "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of me being baptized?" Don't put off being baptized. Step out and show people the amazing work God has done in your life!

What do I do next?

If you are exploring what it means to follow Jesus, we would love to talk with you! If you already are a follower of Jesus, then sign up to be baptized. Once you have signed up, one of our pastors will contact you. In the meantime, read through the bible verses and questions listed below. Then get excited! Your baptism will be a mile marker in your faith journey that you won't forget.

Questions:

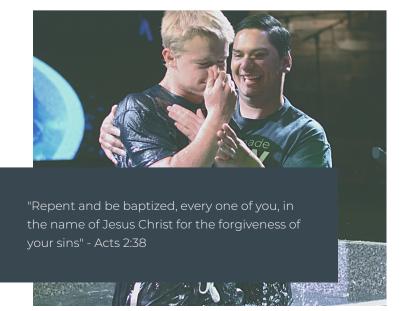
Take some time with each question, read the verses attached, and write down your thoughts.

Have you become a follower of Jesus? Is He your Savior? (Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 3:18)

What did Jesus do before His public ministry began? (Matthew 3:13-16)

What are the two things we are called to do in response to the gospel of Jesus? (Acts 2:37-38)

How is someone saved from their sins? (Acts 16:30-31)



What is the connection between Jesus' death and our baptism? What have we been set free from if we are followers of Jesus? (Romans 6:1-7)