



# Water Baptism

*“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.” Acts 2:38*

Water Baptism is a beautiful, physical expression of what has transpired in your life as a new Christian.

Going down under the water symbolizes the fact that you have identified with Christ in His death and have yourself died to sin. Coming up out of the water symbolizes that you have participated with Christ in His own resurrection from the dead and that you have been raised to a new way of living.

Water Baptism cannot save you. You must place your faith and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour before being baptized in water. Water baptism requires repentance, faith and obedience. Water baptism is a reference point for the rest of your life.

## **Why be Baptized?**

Water baptism is an important part of being a disciple of Jesus Christ because it is obedience to Christ’s Great Commission. (Matthew 28:19-20)

It follows the example of the Early Church: Acts 2:38; Acts 8:46; Acts 9:18; Acts 10:46-48; Acts 16:32-33; Acts 19:4-5

It confirms identification with Christ. (Galatians 2:20)

It is a testimony of the change in your life. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Being baptized in water will strengthen your faith as you take this step of obedience to Christ. Your baptism provides a wonderful opportunity to give witness to what has taken place in your life to everyone present. Also, your obedience to Christ moved you along the pathway of God’s blessing.

## *Water Baptism:* Process and Practicalities

### **Process:**

- Complete a Water Baptism Application Form. On a separate sheet, write a letter to Pastor Tracy giving the reasons why you should be baptized.
- If under the age of 18, have your parents/guardians sign the Permission Form.
- These steps can be completed online: <https://freedomkw.wufoo.com/forms/water-baptism-application/>
- Turn the above information into to Pastor Tracy and she will be in touch about your application.
- Meet with Pastor Tracy at an arranged meeting prior to the Water Baptismal service for further instructions.

### **Practical Aspects of the Water Baptismal Service:**

- Bring a set of clothes to wear into the water – dark T-shirt and shorts over your bathing suit.
- Bring a towel and an extra set of clothes to change into.
- Have your testimony written out in point form and bring it with you.
- Do **not** touch the microphone.
- Meet together 30 minutes before the service begins for further instructions and prayer.
- Pray daily that God will give you peace as your share your faith and that God would use your testimony to be a blessing to those who hear it.