

NEXT: WATER BAPTISM

MATTHEW 28:19-20 | 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

Following Jesus is the best decision you could ever make! Your next step is water baptism.

Water Baptism is a beautiful, physical expression of what has happened 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.

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 Jesus. *Matthew 3:13-17*
- 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.

"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