



ANOINTED FAITH FAMILY CHURCH

BAPTISM *Sunday*

BAPTISM REVIEW

BURIED WITH HIM IN DEATH. RAISED TO WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE

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AFFC STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE IN WATER BAPTISM BY IMMERSION IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Matthew 28:19 • Acts 2:38 • Acts 10:47–48

At Anointed Faith Family Church, we believe water baptism is an important act of obedience for every person who has placed their faith in Jesus Christ. Baptism does not replace faith in Christ or earn salvation. Instead, it is a public expression of our faith, obedience, identification with Christ, and commitment to follow Him.

The Bible presents baptism as both a command and a privilege for the believer. Through baptism, we publicly identify ourselves with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and declare that we desire to live a new life in Him.

1. WHAT IS WATER BAPTISM?

Water baptism is the act by which a believer is immersed in water and raised again as a public testimony of faith in Jesus Christ.

Jesus commanded His followers to make disciples and baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

Peter likewise instructed those who responded to the gospel to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

Acts 2:37–38

The early church continued this practice as people believed in Christ.

Acts 8:26–39; Acts 10:47–48; Acts 16:31–34

Baptism therefore represents an outward expression of an inward decision to follow Jesus.

Remember:

- Salvation changes the heart.
- Baptism publicly declares the change.



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2. WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

According to Scripture, baptism is for those who have personally placed their faith in Jesus Christ.

Baptism is not simply a requirement for church membership or participation. The biblical pattern connects baptism with repentance, faith, and a personal response to the gospel.

The Ethiopian official heard the gospel from Philip and, after believing, asked:

“What prevents me from being baptized?” - See Acts 8:26–39.

In Acts 16, Paul and Silas proclaimed the gospel to the jailer and his household. After they believed, they were baptized.

Acts 16:31–34

Biblical belief involves more than acknowledging that Jesus exists. Genuine faith produces a response. We turn toward Christ, confess our faith, repent of sin, and begin living in obedience to Him.

A person preparing for baptism should be able to say:

- I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior.
- I have placed my faith in Jesus Christ.
- I understand that salvation comes through God's grace by faith.
- I have repented of my sins and desire to follow Christ.
- I understand that baptism is an act of obedience and public identification with Christ.

Supporting Scriptures:

Acts 8:36–39; Acts 16:31–34; Acts 2:37–38; Ephesians 2:8–9



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3. WHAT IS THE PROPER METHOD OF BAPTISM?

Water baptism at AFFC is by full immersion.

The biblical practice of baptism is best represented by immersion in water. The original source explains that the biblical meaning and practice of baptism point toward being immersed and raised from the water.

Immersion provides a powerful picture of the believer's identification with Christ:

- Going down into the water → Christ's death and burial
- Coming up from the water → Christ's resurrection and new life

Romans 6:3–4 describes baptism in connection with being united with Christ in His death and resurrection.

AFFC Believes:

Baptism by immersion visibly demonstrates the believer's identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Supporting Scriptures:

Matthew 28:19; Acts 8:36–39; Romans 6:3–4; Colossians 2:12

4. IN WHOSE NAME ARE WE BAPTIZED?

Jesus instructed His disciples to baptize disciples in the name of:
The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

Throughout Acts, baptism is also described in connection with the name of Jesus Christ.

Acts 2:38

Acts 10:47–48

Therefore, AFFC's statement of faith declares:

We believe in water baptism by immersion in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Baptism is ultimately about our identification with Jesus Christ and our public confession that He is Lord.



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5. WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN?

Baptism is a powerful picture of what Christ has accomplished for us and what has happened in the life of the believer.

Immersion and being raised from the water present a picture of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. It also represents the believer dying to the old life and rising to walk in newness of life.

Baptism represents:

DEATH

I have died to my old way of life.

BURIAL

My old life has been buried with Christ.

RESURRECTION

I have been raised to walk in newness of life.

IDENTIFICATION

I publicly identify myself with Jesus Christ.

EXPECTATION

I look forward to the resurrection and eternal life promised through Christ.

Supporting Scriptures:

Romans 6:3–5; Colossians 2:12; 2 Corinthians 5:17

6. DOES BAPTISM SAVE US?

No.

Baptism does not earn salvation, replace faith, or save a person apart from Jesus Christ. Scripture teaches that salvation is God's gift of grace received through faith.

Ephesians 2:8–9

The original Baptism Review clearly distinguishes salvation from baptism, explaining that salvation precedes baptism and that baptism is the believer's obedient response to salvation.



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We are saved by:

- Grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

We are baptized because:

- We have believed in Jesus Christ and desire to obey Him.

Baptism does not make us Christians; rather, it publicly identifies us as followers of Christ.

7. WHY DID JESUS COMMAND BAPTISM?

Jesus commanded His disciples to baptize those who become His followers.

Matthew 28:19-20

Because Jesus commanded baptism, believers should not view it as an optional religious ceremony. It is an act of obedience to Christ.

The original source describes baptism as both an obligation and an awesome privilege because it publicly declares our intention to follow Christ.

Baptism says publicly:

“I belong to Jesus Christ.”

“I have placed my faith in Him.”

“I choose to follow Him.”

“My old life is behind me.”

“I desire to walk in newness of life.”



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8. WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

There are several biblical reasons a believer should be baptized.

1. JESUS COMMANDED IT.

Jesus instructed His disciples to baptize those who become His followers.

Matthew 28:19–20

2. JESUS GAVE US AN EXAMPLE.

Jesus Himself was baptized by John.

Matthew 3:13–17

3. IT IS AN ACT OF OBEDIENCE.

Peter instructed those who responded to the gospel to repent and be baptized.

Acts 2:37–38

4. IT IDENTIFIES US WITH CHRIST.

Baptism pictures our participation in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection.

Romans 6:3–4

5. IT DECLARES OUR NEW LIFE.

The believer publicly demonstrates a desire to leave the old life behind and walk in newness of life. **Romans 6:4; 2 Corinthians 5:17**

6. IT IDENTIFIES US WITH THE BODY OF CHRIST.

Baptism is also a public testimony witnessed and celebrated by the church community.

1 Corinthians 12:12–13

7. IT POINTS TO OUR FUTURE RESURRECTION.

Baptism points beyond the present moment to the believer's hope of resurrection through Christ. **Romans 6:5; 1 Corinthians 15:20–22**



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9. WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

As soon as reasonably possible after placing your faith in Christ.

The New Testament frequently shows baptism occurring soon after a person responds to the gospel.

At Pentecost, approximately three thousand people responded to Peter's message and were baptized. **Acts 2:37–41**

The Ethiopian official was baptized after hearing and believing the gospel.
Acts 8:26–39

The Philippian jailer and his household were baptized after responding to the gospel.

Acts 16:31–34

The pattern of Scripture demonstrates that believers should not unnecessarily delay baptism.

Baptism is a response of obedience, and obedience should be taken seriously.

10. WHO CAN BAPTIZE?

The New Testament records disciples, apostles, and ministers baptizing believers.

- **John 4:1–2**
- **Acts 8:36–39**
- **Acts 10:47–48**

At Anointed Faith Family Church, baptism is ordinarily administered by the pastor or an authorized ministry leader.

The purpose of the person administering baptism is not to provide salvation but to assist the believer in fulfilling Christ's command.



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11. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I AM BAPTIZED?

When you enter the baptismal water, you are publicly identifying yourself with Jesus Christ.

BEFORE ENTERING THE WATER

You have placed your faith in Jesus Christ.

GOING INTO THE WATER

You are symbolically identifying with Christ's death and burial.

UNDER THE WATER

The old life is pictured as buried.

COMING OUT OF THE WATER

You are symbolically identifying with Christ's resurrection and declaring your desire to walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:3-4

Baptism does not magically remove sin. Rather, it gives visible expression to the work God has already begun in the believer's life.



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12. WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT DURING BAPTISM?

Baptism is a simple but meaningful act.

The baptismal leader will provide instructions before entering the water.

Generally:

1. You will enter the baptismal area.
2. The minister will ask you to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ.
3. You will be positioned safely in the water.
4. The minister will briefly lower you beneath the water.
5. You will immediately be raised from the water.
6. You will be assisted from the baptismal area.

The entire process is intended to be a joyful celebration of your decision to follow Jesus Christ.



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13. KEY SCRIPTURES FOR BAPTISM

Jesus' Command

Matthew 28:19–20

Repentance and Baptism

Acts 2:37–38

Baptism in the Name of Jesus

Acts 10:47–48

The Ethiopian's Baptism

Acts 8:26–39

Belief and Baptism

Acts 16:31–34

Baptism and the Work of Christ

Romans 6:3–5

Buried and Raised with Christ

Colossians 2:12

Salvation by Grace Through Faith

Ephesians 2:8–9

New Creation

2 Corinthians 5:17

Jesus' Baptism

Matthew 3:13–17

Baptism and the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:12–13

Baptism and New Life

John 3:1–6

The Great Commission

Mark 16:15–16; Matthew 28:18–20



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14. BAPTISM REVIEW QUESTIONS

Understanding Baptism

1. What is water baptism?

2. Who should be baptized?

3. What method of baptism does AFFC practice?

4. Why does AFFC practice baptism by immersion?

5. In whose name are believers baptized?

6. What does baptism symbolize?



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Understanding Baptism - Continued

7. Does water baptism save a person? Explain.

8. According to Matthew 28:19, what did Jesus command His followers to do?

9. According to Acts 2:38, what response did Peter call for?

10. What does going under the water symbolize?

11. What does coming out of the water symbolize?

12. Why should a believer not unnecessarily delay baptism?



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15. PERSONAL BAPTISM REFLECTION

Before being baptized, take time to prayerfully consider the following:

MY FAITH

I have placed my faith in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.

Yes / Not Yet

MY REPENTANCE

I have turned away from my old way of life and desire to follow Christ.

Yes / Not Yet

MY UNDERSTANDING

I understand that baptism does not save me; salvation is by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Yes / Not Yet

MY OBEDIENCE

I understand that baptism is an act of obedience to Jesus Christ.

Yes / Not Yet

MY PUBLIC TESTIMONY

I am willing to publicly identify myself as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Yes / Not Yet

MY NEW LIFE

I desire to walk in newness of life and continue growing in my relationship with Jesus Christ.

Yes / Not Yet



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17. FINAL ENCOURAGEMENT

Baptism is more than entering and leaving a pool of water. It is a visible testimony of a spiritual decision.

You are declaring before God, the church, your family, and the world:

“I believe in Jesus Christ.”

“I belong to Him.”

“My old life has been buried.”

“I have been raised to new life.”

“I choose to follow Jesus.”

Baptism is a joyful privilege through which believers publicly demonstrate what Christ has done in their lives.

As you prepare for baptism, remember that the water is not what saves you.
Jesus saves.

The water is your testimony.

The immersion is your identification.

The obedience is your response.

And the new life is your journey with Christ.

WELCOME TO THE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST!