

Performing a Water Baptism

At Church

Because water baptism is deeply connected to being part of a local church community, we prioritize baptizing new Christ followers following our services.

At another location

If the person in your small group cannot have their baptism at church, select a body of water spacious enough for them to be fully immersed with two people standing at their side: beaches, pools, etc..

In water baptism...

- We personally identify with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. Romans 6:1–6
- We publicly profess our faith in Jesus. Acts 22:16
- We are received into the community of Christ's followers, the church. Acts 2:41

IF YOU ARE PERFORMING THE WATER BAPTISM

- 1. Gather and meet with those being water baptized to:**
 - Explain what to expect during the baptism program.
 - Confirm their faith in Christ and desire to be baptized.
 - Prep them to share their testimony.
 - Pray for them and for God to impact their family/friends.
- 2. Gather family/friends around you and the person being water baptized.** The Grace Group leader or the person who prepared them to be water baptized is the one authorized to perform the water baptism.
- 3. Briefly share the reason for and purpose of baptism.** (Union with Christ >> public profession of Christ >> identification with Christ's people)
- 4. Have those who are being baptized share their 1" testimony.**
- 5. Invite the person getting baptized to get in the water,** moving them until you are a little more than waist deep.
- 6. Ask them the following questions to confess their faith in Christ publicly:**
 - "Do you believe that Jesus died in your place and paid the price for your sins?"
 - "Do you believe that Jesus rose from the dead and that he is the Son of God?"
 - "Are you trusting in Jesus alone to be your Savior and Lord?"
- 7. Perform the Water baptism.**
 - **The Grace Group leader and/or the person who led the person through One 2 One are authorized to baptize.**
 - Ask the person being baptized to hold their nose shut.
 - Place one hand on their head or shoulder and the other on their back to support them.
 - Gently lower them backward until they are fully immersed in the water.
 - Help them return to an upright seated position.
 - As you baptize them, say: *"Based upon your confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, I baptize you in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."*
- 8. Celebrate!!!**
- 9. Help them out of the water and have the Grace Group pray for them.**