

THE LIFE CHURCH DFW

BAPTISM

7-Day Devotional

We are with you!

Baptism is a public declaration that you belong to Jesus. Over the next seven days, read the Bible passage, think about its message, pray, and take one step of faith. Use this devotional on your own or with family, a friend, or your church group.

Exploring faith, preparing for baptism, or already baptized? There is a next step for each of us. We are with you!

Your seven days

- 1 First Things First
- 2 Who Should Be Baptized?
- 3 Why Be Baptized?
- 4 A Picture of New Life
- 5 How Are We Baptized?
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Read. Think. Pray. Take one step.

First Things First

What is salvation?

READ THE BIBLE

Ephesians 2:8-10 NASB 1995

Salvation is a gift from God.

Before we talk about baptism, let's talk about salvation. Salvation means being rescued from sin and brought into life with God. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that goes against God's ways.

We cannot earn this gift by doing good things. Jesus, God's Son, died for our sins. He was buried and rose again. We are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus. Grace is God's kindness that we cannot earn. His grace also holds us secure.

Trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord. That means trusting Him to save you and lead your life. Baptism is a way to show others that you have trusted Him.

Think about it

1. What has Jesus done for me?
2. Am I trusting Jesus to save me, or trying to earn God's love?

Talk to God

God, thank You for loving me. Help me understand Your gift of salvation and trust Jesus. Teach me to follow Him. Amen.

Take one step

Share what you believe about Jesus with a pastor or trusted believer. Talk through any questions you have.

Already baptized? Thank God for saving you. Tell someone why His grace matters to you.

Who Should Be Baptized?

Baptism is for believers.

READ THE BIBLE

Acts 8:12 NASB 1995

Step 1: Belief. Step 2: Baptism.

Philip told people the good news about Jesus. When they believed the message, they were baptized. Belief came first. Baptism followed.

A believer is someone who has trusted Jesus Christ for forgiveness and received Him as Lord. Family, friends, and the church can help us learn. But each of us must trust Jesus for ourselves.

Baptism does not save you. Jesus saves you. Baptism is a public declaration: a way to tell others that you belong to Him. If you still have questions about faith, ask. We want to help you understand.

Think about it

1. What does it mean for me to trust Jesus?
2. Why does belief come before baptism?

Talk to God

Jesus, help me understand what it means to trust You. Give me courage to ask questions and follow You for myself. Amen.

Take one step

Put your faith into words: What do you believe about Jesus, and why? Share your answer with someone who follows Him.

Already baptized? Think back to your baptism. What did you want others to know?

Why Be Baptized?

Jesus asks us to follow Him.

READ THE BIBLE

Matthew 28:18-20 | **John 14:15** NASB 1995

Obedience is love in action.

Jesus told His followers to make disciples and baptize them. A disciple is someone who learns from Jesus and follows Him. Baptism is one step Jesus asks His followers to take.

Obedience means doing what Jesus says. When we love Him, we want to follow His commands. We obey because we trust the One who loves us and knows what is best.

You may feel excited about baptism. You may feel nervous, too. Talk with a pastor or trusted believer about how you feel. They can help you get ready. You do not have to take this step alone.

Think about it

1. Why does Jesus want His followers to be baptized?
2. How can I show my love for Him today?

Talk to God

Jesus, thank You for loving me. Help me listen to Your Word and do what You say. Give me courage to follow You. Amen.

Take one step

Choose one way to obey Jesus today. You could tell the truth, forgive someone, or serve a person in need.

Already baptized? Ask yourself: What next step of obedience is God showing me in His Word?

A Picture of New Life

What does baptism show?

READ THE BIBLE

Romans 6:3-4 | **2 Corinthians 5:17** NASB 1995

Jesus gives us a new life.

Baptism is a picture of what Jesus has done for us. Going under the water pictures being buried with Christ. Coming up pictures the new life we have because He rose from the dead.

The water does not wash away our sins. Jesus forgives us. Baptism shows others that we belong to Him and have begun a new life with Him.

New life does not mean we never do wrong again. It means we are learning to follow Jesus. When we sin, we can tell God the truth, ask for forgiveness, and turn away from that sin. His Spirit helps us grow.

Think about it

1. What do going under and coming up show?
2. Where do I need God's help to change?

Talk to God

Jesus, thank You for giving me new life. Help me turn away from sin and follow You each day. Amen.

Take one step

Name one attitude, habit, or choice you need to change. Ask God for help, and talk with a trusted believer.

Already baptized? Notice one way God has helped you grow. Thank Him for that change.

How Are We Baptized?

Baptism by full immersion.

READ THE BIBLE

Matthew 3:13-17 | **Romans 6:4** NASB 1995

Baptism shows that I belong to Jesus.

At The Life Church, we practice baptism by full immersion. Immersion means your whole body goes under the water and then comes back up. This pictures death, burial, and new life with Jesus.

Jesus was baptized by John. Jesus had no sin to confess. He was carrying out God's good plan. Today, we are baptized because we have trusted Jesus and want to obey Him.

A church leader will explain each step and help you. If you are afraid of water or need extra help, tell the team. Ask questions about what will happen. We want you to feel cared for as you take this step.

Think about it

1. What does full immersion mean?
2. What would help me feel ready for baptism?

Talk to God

God, thank You for people who help me follow Jesus. Help me share my questions and trust You as I take this step. Amen.

Take one step

Ask the baptism team what to wear, when to arrive, and what will happen in the water.

Already baptized? Encourage someone getting ready for baptism. Ask how you can help.

When Should I Be Baptized?

After you have trusted Jesus.

READ THE BIBLE

Acts 8:26-39 NASB 1995

Faith leads to a next step.

An Ethiopian man was reading the Bible and had questions. Philip helped him understand the good news about Jesus. When they came to water, the man asked to be baptized. He was ready to respond.

Once you have trusted Jesus and understand baptism, you can take this step. You do not need to know everything in the Bible. You will keep learning as you follow Him.

If you are ready, let us know. If you have questions, bring them to a pastor. Questions are welcome. We want to help you take this step with faith and joy.

Think about it

1. What questions do I still have about baptism?
2. What would help me take my next step of faith?

Talk to God

Jesus, help me respond to what I learn about You. Give me courage to take my next step and ask for help when I need it. Amen.

Take one step

Talk with a pastor or church leader about baptism. Ask about the next baptism class and how to prepare.

Already baptized? Pray for someone taking this step. Offer to attend and celebrate with them.

We Are With You!

Keep following Jesus with your church family.

READ THE BIBLE

Acts 2:41-42 | **Galatians 5:22-23** NASB 1995

Baptism is a milestone worth celebrating.

The first Christians kept growing after they were baptized. They learned God's Word, spent time together, shared meals, and prayed. Their church family helped them follow Jesus.

Your church family wants to walk with you, too. We will celebrate your baptism and help you keep growing. Make time to read the Bible, pray, and worship with us. Ask questions. Let others encourage you.

The Holy Spirit helps us become more like Jesus. His work shows in our love, patience, kindness, and self-control. Growth takes time. As you learn, look for ways to help others. At The Life Church, we want to Reach and Love People to Life in Christ.

Think about it

1. Who can help me keep growing in faith?
2. How can I show the love of Jesus this week?

Talk to God

God, thank You for my church family. Help me keep learning, stay close to You, and love others as I follow Jesus. Amen.

Take one step

Make a plan for this week: read your Bible, pray each day, and join your church family for worship or Bible study.

Already baptized? Choose someone to encourage this week. Ask how you can pray for them.