

BAPTISM AT ANTIOCH

VISION FOR BAPTISM AT OUR CHURCH: *We want every believer in our church to have their decision to follow Jesus be celebrated and confirmed through water baptism.*

Baptism is a powerful action of obedience and repentance in someone's life, and we want to celebrate it like the major decision it is! Not only is baptism an outward expression of a person's decision to follow Jesus, it is a physical act of obedience and repentance, turning from a life of sin in opposition to God to receive his righteousness and forgiveness so we can have eternal life with Him.

WHAT IS BAPTISM? *A follower of Jesus being immersed in water by 1 or more followers(s) of Jesus in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as an act of repentance for the expressed purpose of obeying Jesus and following Him forever.*

Throughout the New Testament we see baptism as a physical response of people who are repenting from a life far from God and receiving His grace and salvation. Every time baptism is modeled in Scripture the person being baptized is being baptized by another believer by full immersion in water. We see John the Baptist calling people to repentance and baptism in Matthew 3, Peter doing the same in Acts 2 and the church continuing this throughout the rest of the history.

WHY IS BAPTISM IMPORTANT? *It is an act of obedience to Jesus to be unified with Him in both His death to sin and His resurrection to new life lived to God.*

In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus tells us that making disciples consists of being baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and obeying all that He commanded. Not only is baptism an act of obedience, but Romans 6:1-11 explains that in the act of baptism, we are unified with Jesus both in His death to sin and in His resurrection into life to be lived to God. In our repentance and obedience, the power of sin is broken off of our lives and we are freed to live our life fully in God! There is power in baptism!

HOW DO I GET BAPTIZED AT ANTIOCH? *Receive salvation through Jesus, repent from a life of sin, confess Jesus as Lord, commit to following Him for the rest of your life and be baptized by another follower of Jesus.*

Baptism is an act of obedience and repentance as a disciple of Jesus. That means that to be baptized, you must first receive salvation through Jesus and repent from your life of sin to follow Him. If you would like to be baptized at Antioch, we ask that you be part of our body of believers by attending a Sunday service, be involved in a Lifegroup, and be committed to being disciplined and making disciples. If Antioch is not the local church that you want to be apart of, that is absolutely fine, but we would ask that you be baptized by the local church that you are committed to walking with in this season of your life. Baptism is to strengthen the church as a whole, not only the individual, and we want everything we do to facilitate the strengthening of community for the glory of God!