



# Baptism

## Why Should I Be Baptized?

### 1. To be obedient to Christ's command

*"All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."*

This Scripture records Jesus' last instructions to His disciples before He ascended to Heaven. Final instructions are often the most important words someone wants to communicate.

### 2. To publicly profess that you are a follower of Christ

*"We know that we have come to know Him, if we obey His commands." 1 John 2:3*

*"Those who accepted His message were baptized..." Acts 2:41*

*"But when they believed Phillip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." Acts 8:12*

Obedying Christ's command to be baptized demonstrates to others that you know Jesus.

### 3. To follow Christ's example

*"At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan." Mark 1:9*

## What is the Meaning of Baptism?

Baptism is for every person who has personally received Jesus Christ as his or her Lord and Savior.

The word baptism in the Greek is "baptize" meaning "to dip" or "to immerse." This literal meaning of the work is a beautiful picture of what baptism



represents spiritually. The very moment we trust Christ as our Savior, we are identified with Him in His death, burial, and resurrection.

Baptism is rich in symbolism, for it depicts the new life that is given through faith in Christ. Though baptism doesn't bring salvation to a person, it is a beautiful picture of the new life that Christ promises.

When a person is immersed in the water, it is symbolic of the death of what Scripture calls the "old nature." It is a portrayal of leaving behind ungodly habits and practices—in essence, putting those things to death.

When a person is raised up from the water, it is a symbol of the new life that is found in Christ. The old has been washed away, the new has begun—a new life characterized by freedom through the power of the Holy Spirit.

*"Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Romans 6:3-4*

For more information about baptism, or if you desire to be baptized at Kearney Evangelical Free Church, call **237-5968** and ask for Linda Muhlbach or email her at [linda@kefc.org](mailto:linda@kefc.org).