

## **WHAT IS BAPTISM?**

Baptism is an outward expression of an inward decision. It's the physical expression of what has happened spiritually in your heart. It was a very private moment when you gave your heart to Jesus, just between God and you. Baptism is letting the world know of that decision to follow Him.

## **WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?**

Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist before He started His ministry. Jesus also commanded His disciples to “make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Matt 28:19 NLT – From Jesus’ example and His commandment to His disciples, we believe the next step after saying “yes” to Jesus is to be baptized.

## **CAN I BE BAPTIZED IF I'M NOT ABLE TO ATTEND AN IN-PERSON SERVICE? I'M EITHER PART OF OUR WAVE CHURCH ONLINE CAMPUS, OR I'M NOT PHYSICALLY ABLE TO ATTEND AN IN-PERSON SERVICE DUE TO VARIOUS REASONS.**

**(If this applies to you, when filling out the baptism form, you will choose ‘At-home/remote’ baptism. When you fill out and submit the form, someone from our team will reach out to you personally to help make your baptism a special and memorable moment!)**

While we offer baptisms at our campus locations, we understand sometimes attending a physical campus is not possible for everyone. To help you take this step when you don't have the convenience of a traditional ‘at church’ baptism, we've put together some FAQ's and instructions just for you!

### **1. Who should be water baptized?**

Anyone who has placed their faith in Jesus

### **2. Who can baptize me?**

Any believer and follower of Jesus can baptize you. It could be a friend, parent, family member, etc. There is no requirement to be able to baptize someone other than it being someone who is a believer and follower of Jesus. It doesn't need to be a pastor or church leader who baptizes you, however, baptism should never involve ‘self-baptism.’

### **3. Where can I be baptized?**

You can be baptized anywhere there is a body of water! It could be a pool, river, ocean, lake, hotel swimming pool, hot tub, etc. And for children, it could even be done in a bathtub. It can be any body of water where you can be fully immersed under the water.

### **4. Why is full immersion important?**

Colossians 2:12 says, "For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead."

Matthew 3:16-17 – "When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.'"

The Greek word from which we get the word baptism is "baptizo," which literally means "to immerse." All water baptisms in scripture were by full immersion.

### **5. What should the person baptizing me ask me and declare over me?**

The qualifications for the person you choose to baptize you are that they are a believer and follower of Jesus.

They should ask you the following questions:

- Have you accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior?
- Do you believe that Jesus died and was raised to life?
- They then will declare over you, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit."

6. If you sign up for your baptism to be done 'At-home/remotely,' someone from our team will reach out to you with special instructions regarding your baptism. We would love you to send us your baptism story, pictures and/or video from your baptism that we can share with our Wave Church family as we celebrate your special day! We will go over all of that with you after you sign up. Also, we will mail you a baptism t-shirt to be baptized in. The t-shirt is also a gift to you from us, for you to keep as a memento for your baptism!

## **WILL I BE IMMERSUED COMPLETELY IN THE WATER OR SPRINKLED?**

Baptisms at Wave Church are full immersion, meaning all of you goes under the water. We don't get into the theological debate of sprinkling vs immersion. We just believe in full immersion because of what Jesus has done for us, to show the transforming, amazing power which is salvation.

## **WILL I GET MY HAIR WET?**

Yes, your head will be completely submerged.

## **WILL I FEEL DIFFERENT?**

You may or may not "feel" different, but we do believe that when you go down into the waters, your old sinful nature is buried, and you are raised up in newness of life as you come up out of the waters. We are hoping that you sense a fresh start and new beginning after being baptized.

## **WHAT DO I WEAR?**

We will give you a shirt and towel the day you're baptized. When you sign up to be baptized, we will ask for your t-shirt size. The bottoms you wear are up to you. Guys usually wear dark colored swimming trunks, and girls will wear either dark colored capris or leggings. Don't forget to bring a change of clothes to change into after you are baptized...or you'll be going home wet.

## **WHERE DO I NEED TO GO ON BAPTISM DAY?**

After you sign up to be baptized, someone from our baptism team will reach out to you with instructions on where to meet, when to arrive, and answer any questions you might have.

## **CAN I INVITE PEOPLE TO SEE ME BE BAPTIZED?**

Absolutely! Invite your family and friends to come celebrate this special moment with you.

## **WHAT COVID PRECAUTIONS WILL BE IN PLACE FOR MY BAPTISM?**

We understand the concerns regarding Covid-19 and want to assure you that we will make sure your baptism is conducted in a safe manner.