

# BAPTISM/BELIEVER'S FOUNDATION FORM

Having a desire to follow the Lord Jesus Christ in obedience I desire to be baptized in water:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you understand why believers are water baptized? Yes  No

Have you ever been baptized? Yes  No  Date:\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Have you been Born again having ask Jesus Christ to forgive you of your sins?

Yes  No  Date you were saved? (If Known) \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Please read and study the scriptures on the next page to better understand the doctrine and meaning of water baptism from the New Testament. Return page one to the office and you retain page 2 for your reference and study.

## PRINCIPLES OF CHURCH LIFE

### WATER BAPTISM

Water baptism is the next important step in the first principles of the doctrine of Christ. Water baptism is not merely a form or a meaningless ceremony, but a definite experience in the life of a New Testament Christian, as recorded for us not only in the Gospels, but in the Acts of the Apostles and the Epistles. Hebrews 6:1-2; Acts 2:38-41

#### 1. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE WORD "BAPTIZE"?

Baptism, or baptize, means "to dip, to plunge, to immerse". Mark 1:5; John 3:33; Acts 8:36-39. By definition and usage, the word means "to put into or under water so as to entirely immerse or submerge".

#### 2. WHY HAVE THE ORDINANCE OF WATER BAPTISM? a.

Jesus commanded it. Mark 16:16; Matthew 28:16-20 b.

Jesus was baptized. Matthew 3:13-17

- c. The Apostles commanded it. Acts 2:37-45; Acts 10:44-48
- d. If we love Him, we will keep His commandments. John 14:15
- e. We validate our faith by our obedience. James 2:17-18

#### 3. WHO IS THIS ORDINANCE FOR?

In every Scripture listed below it will be seen that people **heard, believed** and **received the Word**, and then were **baptized**. Repentance and faith always preceded water baptism. Therefore it is a **believer's baptism**".

- a. "He that believeth and is baptized..." Mark 16:16
- b. The Samaritans believed and were baptized. Acts 8:12-15
- c. The eunuch believed and was baptized. Acts 8:35-38
- d. Peter commanded that the Gentiles be baptized. Acts 10:47-48
- e. The Ephesians disciples believed and were baptized. Acts 19:4, 5. Also read Acts 9:17-18; 16:30-34; 18:8

Water baptism is an essential part of obedience; it is not optional. To refuse water baptism is to live in disobedience to the revealed Word of God.

**NOTE:** Water baptism involved a confession of faith in the Lordship of Christ, Acts 8:36-39; Romans 10:9-10. The prerequisites of baptism are repentance, faith, and confession (these clearly exclude infant baptism).

#### 4. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS ORDINANCE?

Water baptism is a symbolic yet real spiritual experience. It is baptism into His:

- a. Death - Romans 6:3, 4,5,11
- b. Burial - Colossians 2:12
- c. Resurrection Colossians 3:1; Romans 6:4,5

Baptism is identification with Christ. In salvation we accept Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. In water baptism we are identified with this triune fact.

- a. By baptism we stand as "dead".
- b. By immersion we bury the "dead".
- c. By raising out of the water, we rise to walk in newness of life.

I have read these Scriptures and I understand the meaning of water baptism from the New Testament.

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\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ (signed)  
(Date)