



BAPTISM AT THE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF SYCAMORE -DEKALB

If you would like to be baptized, complete the information below and return it to the church office. A pastor will contact you for an appointment.

____ Yes, I would like to request baptism!

____ Please arrange an appointment with a pastor.

Please Print:

Name—as it would appear on the certificate

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Home Phone

Work Phone

Date of Birth: (month/day/year. if child)

There is no reason to delay. As soon as the person decides to believe in Christ, they can and should be baptized.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR BAPTISM

1. Spend some time thinking about the significance of baptism and what it means in your life. Be prepared to give a brief summary of your desire to be baptized.
2. Spend some time studying the key passages in the Bible about Baptism – Matt. 28:18-20, Rom. 6:1-11, Acts 8:26-38, 10:48, 16:14-15, 23-24.

WHAT TO WEAR

1. Shorts are fine and a shirt /blouse that is colored (not see through).
2. Be sure to remove any jewelry/watches, etc. that could be damaged.
3. Bring a complete change of clothes and a towel.

Be sure to call the pastors if you have any questions about this special occasion in your spiritual journey. I'm excited about the step you are taking in your relationship with Jesus.

Pastor Brad



Baptism



**Evangelical
Free Church of
Sycamore-
DeKalb**



Baptism

I. WHY BE BAPTIZED?

1. Because we trust God and want to follow Christ's commands and His example.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)

2. Because it shows you are a believer.
"...many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being baptized." (Acts 18:8)

3. Because obeying Christ's commands reveals that you know Him.

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

II. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM?

1. It is a symbol of Christ's burial and resurrection.

"Christ died for our sins...he was buried...and he rose again."
(1 Corinthians. 15:3,4)

2. It is a symbol of your new life as a Christian.

"Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in the newness of life." (Romans 6:3,4)

So, baptism portrays our death in the death of Christ and our new life in the resurrection of Christ. Baptism is an expression of personal faith. It is by

grace through faith that we experience personal union with Christ.

Baptism does not make you a believer, it shows that you already are one!

Baptism is like a wedding ring – it's the outward symbol of the commitment you made in your heart.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith...it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast."
(Ephesians 2:8-9)

III. HOW ARE WE TO BE BAPTIZED?

1. Like Jesus was baptized – by being immersed in water.

"And after being baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water;" (Matthew 3:16)

2. Every baptism in the Bible indicated immersion in water.

(Example) *"...then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water..."* (Acts 8:38,39a)

3. The word "baptize" literally means "to dip".

4. It is the best way to picture a burial and resurrection.

IV. WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Every person who has made the decision to follow Christ.

"...those who had received his word were baptized; and there were added that day about three thousand souls." (Acts 2:41)

"But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike." (Acts 8:12)

The one requirement for baptism was accepting Christ as Lord and Savior. We baptize children when they are old enough to express their trust in Christ.

V. CAN YOU AFFIRM WITH A "YES" TO THESE THREE QUESTIONS?

Do you believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ His only Son, and in the Holy Spirit as co-equal and co-eternal members of the Trinity?

Do you believe in Christ's death for your sins and His subsequent physical resurrection?

Do you confess that your only hope for salvation from sin and eternal punishment is found in your personal trust in Jesus Christ alone?

"Whoever therefore shall confess Me before men, I will confess him before My Father who is in heaven." (Jesus, Matthew 10:3)

VI. WHEN ARE WE TO BE BAPTIZED?

As soon as you have believed! You shouldn't delay.

"Those who believed...were baptized...that day!" (Acts 2:41)