WOODVALE
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH



WATER BAPTISM

Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38

WATER BAPTISM

What is Baptism in Water?

The word Baptize comes from the Greek word "Baptizo," which means "to immerse or dip something in liquid."

Baptism is when a follower of Jesus has chosen to be immersed in water as a sign of their belief and faith in Him. When you decided to follow Jesus, you repented and found forgiveness through Christ.

Baptism in Water follows repentance.

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. - Acts 2:38

We use the word "saved" or "salvation" to describe this process. At salvation God's Holy Spirit comes into your life. Water Baptism is the next step you take after you decide to follow Jesus and receive the gift of salvation.

There is no saving power in water baptism. People are not baptized in order to be saved, but because they are saved! Ephesians 2:5 reminds us that *"it is by grace you have been saved"*.

Why should you be baptized?

1. Jesus was an example for us. Matthew 3:15-16 tells us how John baptized Jesus, and we are to follow Christ's example. By choosing baptism, you are following Christ's example.

2. It is Christ's command. Matthew 28:19-20 which is called "The Great Commission" says, *"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."*

3. It was the practice of the early church. Water baptism was taught by the early church and is recorded in the book of Acts, being mentioned 10 times.

4. Baptism followed conversion, upon a confession of their faith. Acts 8:16, 19:1-7

Why is Water Baptism a sign?

Baptism is a public declaration. It represents moving on from your old life to new life in Jesus. It is an outward symbol of the inward transformation.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" - 2 Corinthians 5:17

Water Baptism identifies us with Christ.

Romans 6:3-5 says, *"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."*

Why do we immerse, and others only sprinkle?

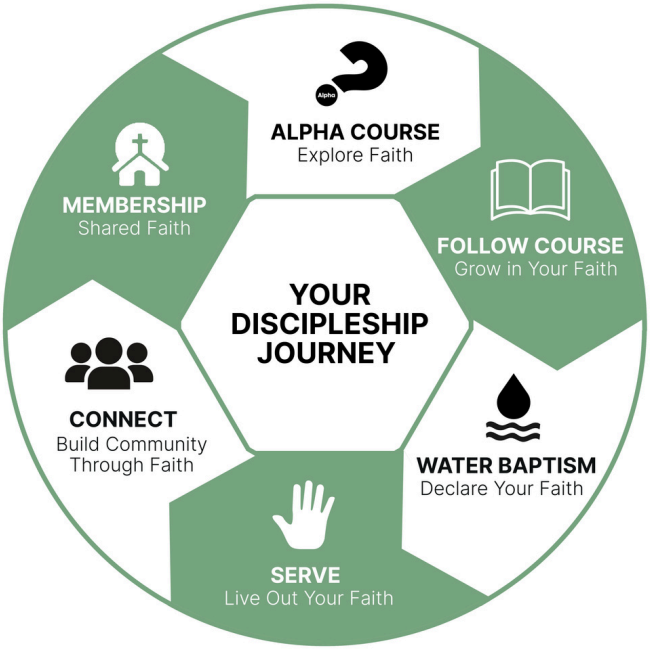
We follow Christ's example of **immersion**. We baptize those who have made a personal, conscious decision to follow Jesus. Water baptism is not essential to salvation, but it is essential to full obedience.

What's Next?

As a follower of Jesus, you should focus on developing a deeper relationship with God and grow in your faith. We are not called just to believe, but to Follow!

- Read and study your Bible
- Pray and cultivate a relationship with God
- Live a new life in Christ
- Attend church regularly
- Serve others

At Woodvale we want to help you as you Follow Jesus!



Requirements for Baptism:

1. Be able to give a clear testimony of having accepted Jesus Christ as your Personal Saviour.
2. Attend the Water Baptismal Class.
3. Be prepared to answer in front of the congregation on Sunday, "Why have you decided to be baptized?".