



Baptism Resource

Preparation for Baptism

Why Should I Be Baptized in Water?

Water Baptism is an act of obedience to Jesus' command. After His resurrection, one of the last things Jesus told His followers was: "All authority in heaven and on 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20). Jesus commands us to make disciples and baptize them!

What Does Baptism Symbolize?

Baptism is a picture of new life. It symbolizes burial and resurrection and newness of life! When someone becomes a follower of Jesus, the old self, ruled by sin and death, has died, and they become a new creation. Going into the water symbolizes this death of the old self, and coming up out of the water symbolizes being born again, the new resurrected self (Romans 6:1-4).

Baptism also portrays our relationship with Jesus. We are baptized "in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit." It is a picture of our allegiance to the Triune God who has reconciled us to Himself and calls us His children. He has redeemed us from the enemy, He loves us, He has made us a new creation, and He is at work in all of us.

Baptism is a public declaration of salvation and new identity in Christ. This is an opportunity for you to step out in Real Responsibility and declare your faith before friends and family. It is an opportunity for your faith to transition from an internal focus to an external one.

What Can I Expect at My Baptism?

If you are baptized at Dive Deep, wear what you would normally wear to Dive Deep. However, you should also bring a change of clothes (dark colored shorts and t-shirt) to wear when you are baptized. Some may bring their own robes as a part of their church tradition, but Chi Alpha does not provide robes.

Before you are dismissed to change clothes to prepare for your baptism you will come to the stage with the other baptism candidates and will participate in the following Baptism Liturgy.



Renunciations

Question: Do you renounce the devil and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce the empty promises and deadly deceits of this world that corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce the sinful desires of the flesh that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Prayer: Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness and evil and lead you into the light and obedience of the Kingdom of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Confessions

Question: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and confess him as your Lord and Savior?

Answer: I do.

Question: Do you joyfully receive the Christian Faith, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

Answer: I do.

Question: Will you obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in them all the days of your life?

Answer: I will, the Lord being my helper.

Congregation question

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

Congregation answers: We will.



Affirmation of the Apostles Creed

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People I do.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I do.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I do.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic (universal) Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

A Chi Alpha staff member will perform your baptism. Once you enter the baptism tank, but before you are immersed, you will be asked to share a one-minute testimony. After you share, the staff worker will say, "Upon your profession of faith, I baptize you, _____, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit" as they immerse you.

