

HOW TO BAPTIZE ANOTHER FOLLOWER OF JESUS

BEFORE YOU BAPTIZE SOMEONE

Confirm that they understand:

- Baptism is a commitment to following Jesus
- Serves as a public statement of obedience to Christ
- Conveys their faith in Jesus as their crucified, buried and risen savior
- Is not essential for salvation, but shows they have committed their life to Christ
- Represents Christ's burial and resurrection
- Symbolizes the burial of old life and the beginning of new life in Jesus

THINGS TO REMEMBER

Explain the details. The unknown can be overwhelming, so it's best to explain the baptism process. Suggest they wear dark clothing, bring a towel, and invite friends and family to attend and celebrate with them.

Encourage them! Let them know how excited you are that they are taking this step. If you are baptizing them as part of a J-Group, encourage the group to attend.

GETTING STARTED

In order to baptize someone else, you must have also been baptized yourself. Briefly explain what baptism is all about. Baptism shows others that you have been made new. It represents your old life being washed clean because of your faith in Jesus. Take a moment to pray for the person getting baptized.

BAPTISM STEPS

Due to the size of the pool, one person will be in the baptismal pool at a time. You will stand on the outside of the pool and guide them along the way. Instruct the person to cross their hands over their chest and hold their nose. Ask, "Have you accepted Jesus as your personal savior?" When they say yes, grasp their arm with one hand and say, "Because of your faith in Jesus and in obedience of His command, I baptize you, BELIEVER'S NAME, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Lower the person backward into the water until their whole body is immersed and immediately raise them up. Celebrate as the person comes out of the water.

SAFETY TIPS

Support their back firmly. Bend your knees so you will be able to raise them up. Place one hand on their back between their shoulders. To avoid injury, do not put your hand on the back of their neck. Their hands will be clasped over their chest, so grip one of their forearms. Push gently to fully immerse someone. Help them get their balance by holding them for a moment as they stand back up.