



BAPTISM

***The who, what, when,
where, why and how
of Baptism***



Arena church believes in baptism exactly as it is described in the bible. To believe and to then be baptised (Acts 2:37-41)

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

To be baptised is to be fully immersed in water - we do this at Arena by means of a pool. We don't sprinkle water as the very word 'baptise' comes from the original Greek word 'baptizo' which literally means to immerse.

In Romans 6:3-4, it symbolises baptism as being buried with Christ and to then raise to new life - all through the power of God. In other words, the old has gone, the new has come.

The water isn't special, other than it's clean and it's warm, so there's nothing magic or holy about it. It purely demonstrates us burying our old life and rising in the new in a public way.

WHY BE BAPTISED?

It's an outward demonstration of an inward decision that you have made.

You have already become a Christian, that doesn't change, but you're publicly saying to those watching - "I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back".

It's also a response to what the bible actually commands in that all believers are to be baptised (Matthew 28:18-19).

WHEN SHOULD YOU BE BAPTISED?

Once you have accepted Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, baptism is the next step..

Acts 2:38,41 - 'Repent and be baptised, everyone of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTISED?

People who have come to their own commitment of faith.

You don't have to be perfect to get baptised, it is a statement of faith, submission and willingness to allow Him to perfect us.

At Arena, there will be no pressure for you to be baptised - it is your choice and only your choice.

HOW?

Practical considerations:

People enjoy hearing your story - or **TESTIMONY** as it is sometimes called. So put together a brief testimony to share on the day of your baptism based around these 4 basic points;

1. Your life before Jesus got involved in it
2. How you heard the gospel of Jesus - making clear the message
3. When you received Jesus into your life
4. How your life has changed as a result of knowing Jesus

You should be able to tell your story in 3 minutes. If you don't feel comfortable speaking in front of others, one of the leaders can read it for you. So, write it down and bring it with you on the day.

Don't forget to **INVITE** family and friends.

On the day **REMEMBER;**

Arrive at church 30 minutes before to get your t-shirt.

A change of clothes and towel

Ask someone to hold your towel

WHERE?

Simply, at the campus that you attend - listen out for the next **BAPTISM** service within our weekly announcements.

I AM FREE
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