

# Baptism & Church Membership

---

## Matthew 28:18-20 (NASB95)

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always , even to the end of the age."

---

## ✓ BELIEVERS BAPTISM:

1. Confess one's belief in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior, through personal faith, before the community of faith. This faith rightly discerns the Cross of Christ and God's work of salvation.
  2. Confess one's strong desire to be obedient to Christ as Lord and taking up the will of one's heavenly Father over and above the will of self. Expression of considered commitment.
  3. Desire to obey Christ's command and be baptized. Dedication of one's life to the glory of God. Commitment to be diligent about growing in Christian character and to become like Christ, according to Holy Scriptures.
  4. Intimate identification with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
  5. Intimate identification with the Body of Christ.
  6. Acknowledgment of the One True God in the Persons of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Trinity).
- 

- Do **you** believe in Christ Jesus as your Lord and Savior? Is the basis of **your** faith God's finished work of salvation through the Cross of Christ?
  - Do **you**, today, confess **your** strong desire to be obedient to Christ, as Lord, and to take up the will of God your Father over and above **your** own will? Have **you** carefully considered this commitment?
  - Do **you** desire to obey Christ's command and be baptized now? Do **you** dedicate the rest of your life to the glory of God? Do **you** commit to be diligent about growing in Christian character and becoming like Christ, according to the Holy Scripture?
  - Do **you** claim an intimate identification with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ?
    - † For the forgiveness of your sins, freedom from the power of sin in your life
    - † As the Great Hope for your own resurrection and victory over sin and death by the power of God through Christ
    - † Assurance of Christ's intercession for you at the right hand of God the Father as your Great High Priest and Their gift of the Holy Spirit's immediate presence and agency in your life
  - Do **you** claim an intimate identification with the Body of Christ?
  - Do **you** acknowledge the Mystery of the One True God in the Persons of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (i.e. Trinity)?
  - Are **you** grateful for what God has done in your life?
  - Do **you** have any questions, whatsoever?
  - Is there anything about God's working in you that you would like to share with us at this time?
-

---

✓ **CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:**

1. **A Life that Testifies/Demonstrates Christ Jesus**
    - a. Conversion
    - b. Spiritual Growth
    - c. Genuine Evidence – Proof Positive
      - i. Love for God
      - ii. Repentance from Sin
      - iii. Genuine Humility
      - iv. Devotion to God's Glory
      - v. Continual Prayer
      - vi. Selfless/Sacrificial Love
      - vii. Separation from the World
      - viii. Spiritual Growth
      - ix. Obedient Living
      - x. Hunger for God's Word
      - xi. Transformation of Life
      - xii. Gratefulness/Thankfulness
      - xiii. Love for Truth
      - xiv. Teachability
      - xv. Connectedness to the Local Body (normatively)
    - d. Current Work of God
  2. **Agreement with the Doctrinal Statement**
  3. **Commitment to the Covenants**
  4. **Agreement with the Constitution & By-Laws**
  5. **Baptized as a Believer**
  6. **Over 18 Years of Age**
-