MADE NEW

A Journey Through Biblical Baptism

Life Church
Horizon West

LIFE CHURCH
HORIZON WEST

Welcome to the Journey

Congratulations! If you're reading this workbook, you're considering one of the most meaningful steps in your walk with Jesus.

At Life Church Horizon West, we believe following Jesus was never meant to be private. Faith begins in the heart, but eventually it becomes visible in the way we live.

One of the very first public acts of obedience Jesus calls every believer to take is baptism.

Pastor Brandt often reminds our church that Jesus didn't simply invite people to believe facts about Him—He invited them to follow Him. Baptism is one of the first beautiful steps in that journey.

This workbook isn't about preparing for a ceremony. It's about celebrating what Jesus has already done in your life and helping you confidently take your next step.

As you complete these pages, ask God to speak to you. Read the Scriptures, answer honestly, and enjoy what He teaches you.

> *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."* — 2 Corinthians 5:17



What Is Baptism?

Read
Matthew 28:18–20
Romans 6:3–4
Acts 2:38

What Does Baptism Mean?

The word baptism comes from the Greek word baptizo, meaning to immerse or completely submerge.

Throughout the Bible, baptism always follows a person's decision to trust Jesus Christ.

Baptism does not save us.
Jesus saves us.
Baptism is our public declaration that we belong to Him.

When we are lowered into the water, we identify with Jesus' death and burial. When we are raised from the water, we celebrate His resurrection and the new life He has given us.

Think of a wedding ring. A ring doesn't make someone married—it simply tells everyone they already are. Baptism works the same way. It is an outward expression of an inward transformation.

Reflection

Before today, how would you have described baptism?

What stands out most from today's lesson?



Why Should I Be Baptized?

Read
Matthew 3:13–17
Acts 8:36–38

Four Reasons We Choose Baptism

Jesus Was Baptized
Although Jesus never sinned, He chose baptism to model obedience and identify with those He came to save.

Jesus Commanded It
Before returning to heaven, Jesus instructed His followers to make disciples and baptize them (Matthew 28:19).

The Early Church Practiced It
Every time people placed their faith in Christ throughout the New Testament, baptism followed as their next step.

It Declares Your Faith
Baptism is your opportunity to publicly say:
“I belong to Jesus.”

Reflection

Which reason encourages you the most?

Is there anything making you hesitant about baptism?



Does Baptism Save Me?

Read
Ephesians 2:8–9
Romans 10:9–10
John 3:16

Understanding Salvation

We are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ—not by good works, religious traditions, or ceremonies.

Baptism is incredibly important because Jesus commands it.
However, baptism does not earn God's forgiveness.

Instead:
· Jesus saves.
· Baptism celebrates.
· Obedience follows.

Our desire to be baptized is simply a joyful response to the grace we've already received.

Reflection
How does knowing salvation is a gift change your perspective?

What does God's grace mean personally to you?



What Changes After Baptism?

Read
2 Corinthians 5:17
Romans 6:6–11
Galatians 2:20

Your New Identity

Baptism doesn't change who God is.
It reminds us who we are.

Because of Jesus:
• I am forgiven.
• I am loved.
• I am adopted into God's family.
• I am made new.
• I have purpose.
• I have eternal hope.

Baptism marks the beginning—not the finish line—of following Jesus.

Reflection

Which truth above speaks most deeply to you today?

How do you hope God continues changing your life?



My Story

One of the most powerful things you can share is your story.
Use this page to begin writing the testimony you'll share through your baptism.

Before Jesus...

How I Came to Know Jesus...

How Jesus Is Changing My Life...

Preparing for Baptism Day

My Baptism

Date:

Who is baptizing me?

Favorite Bible Verse:

People I'm Inviting:

- □ Family
- □ Friends
- □ Small Group
- □ Coworkers
- □ Neighbors
- □ Others

Prayer

Jesus,
Thank You for saving me.
Thank You for making me new.
Today I choose to publicly identify with You. Give me courage to boldly live for You every day.
Amen.



My Commitment

My Next Step

Today I publicly declare that Jesus Christ is my Savior and Lord.

I understand that baptism does not save me—it celebrates the salvation I have already received through faith in Jesus Christ.

I commit to continue growing as a disciple by:

- □ Spending time with God through prayer and Scripture.
- □ Worshiping regularly with my church family.
- □ Joining a Life Group or serving team.
- □ Sharing my faith with others.
- □ Continuing to follow Jesus wherever He leads.

My Commitment

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Congratulations!

Baptism isn't the finish line of your faith journey. It's one of the first steps of faithfully following Jesus. At Life Church Horizon West, we believe God created you on purpose and for a purpose: to know Him, love others, serve His Church, and help people find life in Jesus.

Our church family and I are honored to celebrate this important moment with you. My prayer is that whenever you remember your baptism, you'll be reminded that your identity is found in Christ and that the greatest adventure of your life is walking with Jesus one faithful step at a time.

Pastor Brandt

Welcome to the family. Welcome to the journey. Welcome to the adventure.

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Scripture Reference Guide (ESV)

Companion to the Baptism Class Workbook — Life Church Horizon West

Page 1 — Welcome

2 Corinthians 5:17

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."
(ESV)

Page 2 — What Is Baptism?

Matthew 28:18–20

18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
(ESV)

Romans 6:3–4

3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?
4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.
(ESV)

Acts 2:38

“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.”
(ESV)

Page 3 — Why Should I Be Baptized?

Matthew 3:13–17

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him.
14 John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”
15 But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.
16 And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;
17 and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”
(ESV)

Acts 8:36–38

36 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?”
38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.
(ESV — verse 37 is omitted, as it does not appear in the earliest manuscripts and is not included in the ESV text.)

Also referenced on this page: Matthew 28:19 — see full text above under Page 2.

Page 4 — Does Baptism Save Me?

Ephesians 2:8–9

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,
9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.
(ESV)

Romans 10:9–10

9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.
(ESV)

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."
(ESV)

Page 5 — What Changes After Baptism?

2 Corinthians 5:17

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."
(ESV)

Romans 6:6–11

6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.
7 For one who has died has been set free from sin.
8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.
9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.
10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.
11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.
(ESV)

Galatians 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."
(ESV)