

Thoughts and Notes in Preparation for Baptism

Congratulations on your decision to follow Christ in baptism! This sacrament (*a ceremony that is considered both sacred and a commandment from our Lord to be obeyed*), marks an important milestone in your journey of faith. We pray that as the time for your baptism approaches that you will prepare yourself spiritually.

Baptism is an outward expression of an inward reality. It is meant to communicate to the world that you have decided to follow Jesus as Lord of your life. It is the beginning of your walk, not the end. Don't be surprised if leading up to your baptism, things happen that discourage you from following through. This is normal and is to be expected! PRESS On. You won't regret your decision to be baptized.

Please read our [web page on baptism](#) carefully. If you have questions about any spiritual or logistical concern, please contact one of Mosaic's pastors, elders or deacons. In the meantime, know that we are proud of you for your willingness to walk with Christ and will continue to pray for you and your family.

Since baptism is a personal and public expression of one's own faith, we believe that *the decision to be baptized must be made by individuals in accordance with their faith*. If a person has been baptized previously, yet not by conscious choice of their own free will (e.g., perhaps as an infant, etc.), we believe that upon a mature profession of personal faith, the individual should have the option of being baptized again. However, *once an individual has been baptized in full accordance with their faith, there is no need or biblical instruction to be baptized at any other time in his/her life*.

I. Logistical Information

A. Information We Need from You

- a. We typically baptize on either the first or third Sunday of the month. Exceptions can be made for tight scheduling with family that are traveling to see the baptism, but would be helpful to know at least three weeks in advance, if possible.
- b. What service do you normally attend? You will be baptized only in the service that you normally attend.
- c. Who would you like to baptize you? It's okay if you have no preference, in which case, a pastor, elder or deacon will do the baptizing. If you prefer a certain pastor, we'll have to make sure that the pastor's schedule coincides with your baptism date. It is perfectly okay if you have a special family member, friend, mentor, pastor that you would like to do the baptism. We need to know who you've selected in advance.
- d. Would you or a parent like to say a few words? If so, you/they will have no more than two minutes to say a brief testimony. Let us know if you desire to do this.

- e. Please complete the baptism setup form by [CLICKING HERE](#).

B. Check-in

- a. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early to the service in which you are being baptized.
- b. Check-in with the sound booth and ask to speak with the Worship Service Producer. S/He will show you the order of the service and give you an estimate of the time of when your baptism will occur. Worship services are finalized a week in advance so if you need to know approximate time of the baptism, just ask!
- c. Please sit towards the front of the sanctuary on the side that the baptistry is located. Please ask your family to attend and sit with you.

C. What to Wear/Bring

- a. Comfortable shorts and a shirt (avoid wearing white clothes and loose fitting, low-cut shirts).
- b. We will provide a towel but we encourage you to bring a towel with you and make sure you carry it with you when you when you are called up front.
- c. An extra change of clothes for afterwards.

D. The Baptism Itself

- a. If you or your parent wishes to say anything, it will happen before you climb into the baptistry.
- b. Once in the baptistry, you will sit flat on the bottom, with your knees touching the inside wall of the baptistry.
- c. As you sit there, you will be asked to affirm your decision to follow Christ.
- d. With your right hand, cover your mouth and nose, and place your left hand over your right hand.
- e. The person baptizing you will guide you back into the water until you are totally submersed and then lift you back out. The act itself will only last a few seconds.
- f. You will be assisted out of the baptistry, where you will be prayed for and then brought to the restrooms to change into your extra set of clothes.