

Matt 3:16-17
& Ro 6:3-4

Why Baptism Matters

Sept 21, 2025



FAMILY DEVOTIONAL READING (MATT. 3:16-17 & RO. 6:3-4)

Baptism is more than a church tradition—it’s a powerful symbol of God’s work in our lives. Throughout the Bible, God used water to bring new life: the earth was formed from watery chaos, Noah’s family was saved through the flood, Israel walked through the Red Sea into freedom, and Joshua led God’s people across the Jordan into the Promised Land.

When Jesus was baptized, He stepped into this story. As He came up from the water, the Spirit descended, and God declared His delight in His Son. Later, Paul explained in Romans 6:3–4 that baptism shows our connection to Jesus’ death and resurrection. Going under the water represents being buried with Christ; coming up represents rising to new life in Him.

Baptism is a bold declaration that we belong to Jesus, that our old life is gone, and that we now live as part of His new creation—with the promise of eternal life.



FAMILY CONVERSATION STARTERS

YOUNG KIDS (AGES 4–7)

Question: Why do you think God gave us baptism as a way to show we belong to Jesus?

OLDER KIDS (AGES 8–12)

Question: How does baptism help us remember that Jesus gives us a new life?

TEENS (AGES 13–17)

Question: Baptism is both personal and public. Why is it important that others see our commitment to Jesus?

ADULTS

Question: How does baptism shape the way we live daily as people who have died to sin and been raised to new life in Christ?



SHORT FAMILY ACTIVITY: “NEW LIFE IN WATER”

OPTION 1: OBJECT LESSON

- Fill a clear bowl or sink with water.
- Take a small object (like a rock) and drop it in, explaining how baptism pictures being buried with Jesus.
- Then lift it out, dripping with water, to show being raised to new life.
- Discuss how baptism is a picture of what Jesus has done in us.

OPTION 2: CREATIVE REMINDER

- On paper, draw a simple outline of water (waves or a river).
- Each family member writes or draws one way Jesus has given them “new life” (kindness, courage, forgiveness, joy, etc.)
- Post it somewhere visible to remind your family that you live as people made new in Christ.