

Anyone can baptize someone!

This honor does not need to be done by an ordained minister. You may want to create a special baptizing person in your ministry, or even create a group of baptizers who may be people who have chosen to be set apart as disciple makers. This would make sense that those who are discipling people might be those who baptize their students as well. Or it may be a father or mother who is asked to baptize a child or a special someone. These choices should be up to the individual who is desiring to be baptized. Baptisms should not be used for “show” in order to promote someone’s ministry. Always remember that the seraphim and our indwelling Father know our intentions and motivations for why we do anything. Sincerity vs. selfishness MATTERS for your own personal spiritual career.

Who can be a baptismal recipient?

Baptisms are offered for the person who is of the age when they understand what they are doing. This would most likely preclude an infant or very young child. As we all know that our Thought Adjusters arrive around the age of 5 we should be quite careful. It is possible for a very young child who has just received their indwelling Thought Adjuster to desire their own baptism, especially when they have seen others do so. This is to be encouraged. However, in discussing the child with their parents a spiritually healthy decision can be made. There is nothing wrong with a person desiring to be baptized more than once in their lives. This is of no matter. What matters is that the child of God desires to commit to God at ANY point in their lives. Note: We provide for the dedication of babies and infants during The Jesus MeetUp Week #51. This baby/child dedication is more for the parents who desire to be good spiritual leaders for their child/children over the infant or child. It is a BEAUTIFUL ceremony for the entire community to enjoy!

Helping your fellow to prepare.

A part of loving your fellow is to prepare them for their baptism. This should be a private meeting held before the event with only those persons directly involved in this personal life event where you share with them the information in this document and answer any questions they may have. Be sure they understand the physicality involved in their baptism [where to go, when to speak, what to wear, how to be ‘dunked’ and then come out of the water and walk away]. Especially remind all females to wear something tasteful and covering their bodies as we all know the benefits of modesty in a worshipful setting. Remind them to bring a dry change of clothes etc.

You have tremendous responsibility!

As a Jesus MeetUp leader it is incumbent upon **you** to make certain that this baptism event is a deeply memorable one. Your newly baptized fellow may have seasons in their life where their faith in God is challenged with times of trials and doubt. THIS event should one whereby they can reflect back upon this day of their public baptism and remember the love and commitment that they had and have for God. Make this special for them!

How To Perform a Baptism

When the ceremony begins, the spotlight will be on you. At this time you are in position in or near your chosen vessel of water. This is a statement you may consider delivering to the people to set the tone for what this baptismal event is all about.

You are defining baptism!

Leader: *Living water and spiritual reality*

“Jesus—when He, as God, was made flesh—preached using the term **water**.

Spiritual water is real. It exists in the form of truth, of beauty, of goodness. It

replenishes our souls. It rains down upon our souls, the soil of our hearts, and awakens new growth. You see, the soul grows almost as an organic living reality-entity. This growth must be nurtured in time as all living things require time for growth. A tree begins its life as a seed, it is not a tree at all. It has no characteristics of its later maturity...and yes, from this small, tiny beginning, magnificent beautiful and splendid results might occur. Many times we may wonder about this, and yet, the ultimate secret lies, of course, with God: the ultimate truth of life and reality.”

Leader: “Our baptismal participants are stating to the universe, as a universe citizen of which you have ALWAYS been, that you have chosen to follow the Master’s teachings. All of our seraphim, midways and your entire Spirit Team are here now along with Jesus, our Sovereign Master.

Motivation #1. We attain Him. Motivation #2. We then tell others.

I say again, YOU have always been a citizen of our Master’s universe. We ALL have been! And They ALL know we are here. Remember...

1. God loves you.
2. God is your loving Father.
3. You are the temple of God.
4. You will pursue His loving presence within for your own ongoing personal spiritual experiences in worship.

Leader action: You now offer your baptismal participant/s physical support for their entrance into the water for immersion or application of the water if total immersion has not been chosen.

Leader: [spoken directly to your baptismal fellow as you are holding their hands in front of their chest] “Are you publicly acknowledging that you have committed your life to the doing of our Father’s will?”

Fellow: “I am”

Now, allow your fellow to give their public testimony for their commitment to our Paradise Father.

Fellow: [Testimony of the baptismal recipient.]

Once their testimony is given remember that older children and adults receive support from the person performing the baptism or from another. This involves supporting the recipient's back and head at the shoulders and gently pinching the nose to prevent water from entering it during immersion. [Be sure you have practiced this privately. Flustering about in the water does not make for an elegant and more meaningful experience.] Once they have finished their testimony you say...

Leader: “You are awash in His Living Waters”. [they go down in the water then you raise them out of the water and say...] “Raised now to His life ever new.” [they leave the pool or area]

Added note: The person being baptized receives or experiences the water [sprinkled or dunked]. However, children who are old enough and all adults are fully immersed by leaning back into the pool of water. The support person ensures the baptized is fully immersed, if immersion is chosen and then helps him or her back into an upright position. This is very important!

Perform all baptisms at this time in the same manner. Have fun, yet be solemn and sober as well [funny things can happen during a baptism...just roll with this and keep a jovial spirit]. Feel free to change these instructions around or exclude something if you deem it appropriate.

All are out of the water or have gone back to the group. You now continue...

Leader: “Let us pay attention to these most perfect words...

Yes, I tell you boldly—this absolute personality of pure love and life-energy, fragments himself and he dwells within you. His love for you is complete and pure; He truly needs nothing from you in return. But I tell you, the Father desires to know you, and for you to know him. He desires for you to give him back your love; and I say, the more you know our Father the easier it is to love him. I ask you each to take a short moment that we may thank our Father, together: [*a few moments of silence.*]

Our Father, you know us through and through, and we know that you love us no matter what. We need not hide from you. We stand in awe of your magnificence. We know of the great tasks you have performed. But we are here tonight to bid you thanks for your contribution to our individual personalities. We are small, we are young beings just recognizing your awesome love and strength. We who recognize your Indwelling Self are overflowing in your radiance and light. We extend to you our deepest gratitude and we send you our unending love. Amen.”

At this time your group may have chosen to have a time of celebration with food and drink. Play some celebratory music or have a Lovesong sing-along. Have fun and get creative! Consider ending your Baptism event with

The Lord’s Supper and then saying **The Lord’s Prayer** together as one loving group.

Added note: As you will be in water it might be good idea to think ahead and laminate/waterproof your notes for this event so that they are not drenched and you cannot read them. Consider the size of this note-card/paper if you need to put it in and out of your shirt pocket which may be wet as well during the baptism. This really matters if you have a long list of baptismal participants. Let’s hope there are MANY!