

## What Must I Know Before Baptism? September 28, 2025

**Matthew 4:23**, “Jesus was proclaiming the gospel (the good news) of the kingdom.”

**John 18:37**, “Pilate said to Jesus, “So You are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.”

**Matthew 28:18**, “Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”

**John 17:1-2**, “Jesus lifting His eyes to Heaven said, “Father, <sup>2</sup> You gave Your Son authority over all flesh.”

**Matthew 28:19-20**, “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.”

### Three Commands of Jesus:

1. Be a Disciple
2. Be a Baptized Disciple
3. Be a Baptized Disciple That Learns to Obey All of Jesus’ Commands

**Mark 16:15-16**, “Jesus said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the Good News (the gospel) to everyone. <sup>16</sup> Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned.”

**Believe:** to have faith, to trust, to entrust one’s spiritual well-being to Christ.

**Baptized:** to immerse, to dip under, to make one soaked and fully wet, to submerge, to plunge.

**Saved:** to rescue, to deliver, to heal, to preserve, God rescuing believers from the penalty and power of sin – and into His provisions of safety

### Faith Includes:

1. Entrusting One’s Soul to the Care of Christ
2. Believing that Jesus is the Son of God

**Hebrews 11:6**, *“It is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.”*

### **3. Believing that God Exists**

#### **4. Believing that God Rewards Those Who Sincerely Seek Him**

**Acts 15:7**, *“God chose me to preach to the Gentiles so that they could hear the Good News (the gospel) and believe.”*

**1 Peter 3:20-21**, *“God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat. Only eight people were saved from drowning in that terrible flood. <sup>21</sup> And that water is a picture of baptism, which now saves you, not by removing dirt from your body, but as a response to God from a clean conscience. It is effective because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”*

**Save:** to rescue, to deliver, to heal, to preserve, God rescuing believers from the penalty and power of sin – and into His provisions of safety

**Romans 10:9**, *“If you openly declare (confess) that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”*

**Acts 2:36-38**, *“So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!” <sup>37</sup> Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

#### **So when is someone ready to be baptized?**

**Acts 2:41**, *“Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.”*

**1. You must hear and believe the good news of the gospel (Matthew 4:23, Acts 15:7, Mark 16:15-16, Acts 2:41, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, Hebrews 11:6)**

**2. You must develop a growing belief and faith that gradually increases (2 Peter 1:5-11, read vs. 8 carefully)**

**3. You must repent of sins (Luke 13:5, Acts 2:36-38)**

**4. You must confess Jesus as Lord and believe that God raised Jesus from the dead (Romans 10:9-10)**

**5. You must become a committed disciple of Jesus (Matthew 28:18-20, Luke 14:25-33)**

**Romans 5:1**, *“Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*