

What about....

# Baptism ?

For more than 2000 years people who have become Christians, accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour, have then proclaimed their faith by being baptised as believers.

At Desborough Baptist Church we seek to follow this biblical practice. Jesus gave clear instructions to his Church, so when you are baptised as a believer, you are obeying Jesus' command....

*"All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you"*  
*Matthew 28:18-20*

When a person is thinking about being baptised, the only requirement is that they believe in Jesus Christ as the Lord and Saviour of their life. Along with every other Christian church we believe in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and teach that Jesus died for us and rose again that we might have eternal life.

At Desborough Baptist Church we have a pool for baptisms at the front of the chapel. At a baptismal service the candidate(s) usually give a short testimony, talking about their faith in Jesus and why they have come to be baptised.

## Who can be baptised ?

There are no set age limits, although those being baptised are expected to be old enough to have an understanding of the action they are taking. The key requirement is to be ready to publicly declare your faith in Jesus as Lord and to publicly commit yourself to following Him.

If there are physical or medical reasons why baptism might be difficult, our Minister would be happy to talk this through with you.

People come to baptism by many routes, but in all cases it is about obedience and commitment to Jesus Christ. Are you truly a disciple of Jesus? If so, you will want to keep his commandments. Jesus said, *'You are my friends if you do what I command (John 15:14)*

## What does it mean?

Believer's baptism is also a symbolic act which represents several things:

It points to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and is **a sign of our union with Christ.**

It is also symbolic of washing and **a sign of being made clean from sins.**

It also represents Christ's desire to completely immerse us with his Spirit and is **a sign of God's Spirit in us.**

It is also an indicator that we belong to God's all-inclusive family and is **a sign of entering the church.**

It is a public celebration of faith, declaring to everyone present that we are seeking to follow Christ and is **a sign of our faith.**

## What about babies and infants?

We believe that an individual should be able to make promises for themselves – we therefore seek to baptise 'believers'.

Parents, however, often want to publicly give thanks and commit themselves to the Christian upbringing of a child. We provide opportunity to do this at a Dedication service. If you would like to explore this further please contact our Minister.

## What about Church Membership

Wherever possible we try to encourage those being baptised to consider applying for church membership at the same time. However, we understand that there are those who want to be baptised and then want to consider looking at church membership at another time. This is not a barrier to coming for Baptism.

## What to do next....

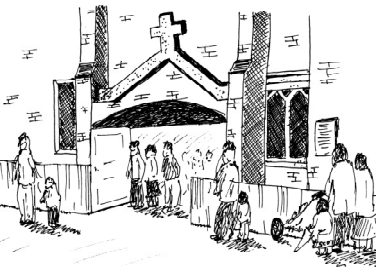
If you would like to talk further about baptism, or would like to be baptised, please contact our Minister. You will then be invited to attend a short course exploring the meaning and reasons for baptism.

## Desborough Baptist Church

Station Road,  
Desborough,  
Northants NN14 2NU  
01536 760149

[www.desboroughbaptist.org.uk](http://www.desboroughbaptist.org.uk)

Minister  
Rev. Adrian Ward  
01536 762721



Desborough  
Baptist Church

