



*Peter said to them  
“Change your hearts and  
lives and be baptised, each  
one of you, in the name of  
Jesus Christ for the  
forgiveness of your sins.  
And you will receive the  
gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

*- Acts 2*

# THORNHILL Baptist Church

## CHAT TO US...

About anything in this leaflet.



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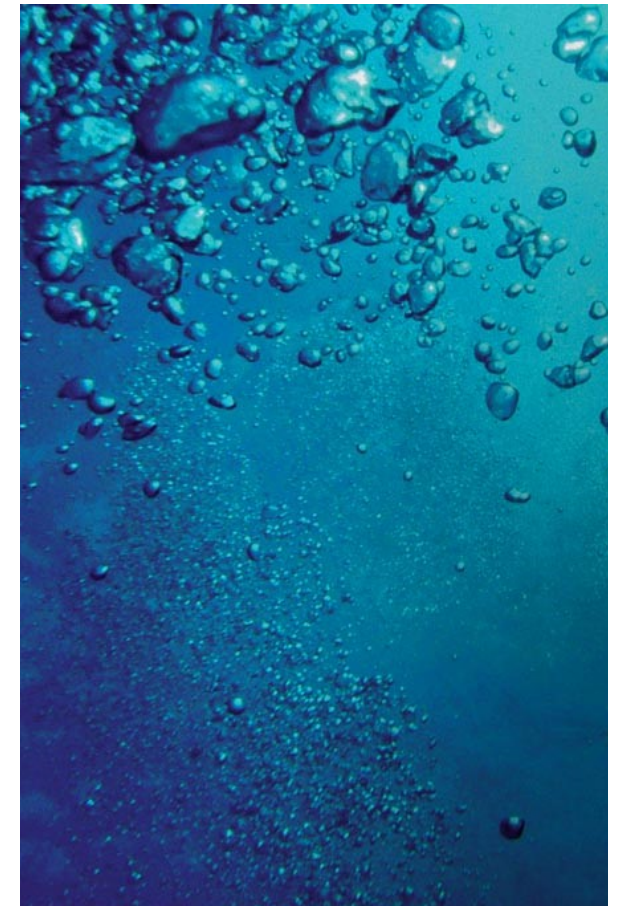
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## YOUR BAPTISM

at Thornhill  
Baptist Church

THORNHILL  
Baptist Church

## WHY GET BAPTISED?

The most life-changing decision you will ever make is the decision to follow Jesus. If you have taken that decision, if you are a Christian, then that's something worth celebrating!

The way we like to do that here at TBC is by baptising you by full immersion, which means dipping you completely under the water. Why? Because Jesus did it and He told us to do the same.

The most important element of baptism is that it is an act of obedience in response to receiving new life in Jesus. Immersion is the normal way, but in some cases there are health reasons that prevent this and we will, of course, baptise by other means under such circumstances.



*“Go everywhere in the world and tell the good news to everyone. Anyone who believes and is baptised will be saved.”*

*- Jesus*



## WHAT HAPPENS?

A baptism is a public event so it normally takes place in a Sunday morning service or one of our “Messy Church” celebrations on a Saturday. We don't have fixed words so the exact format of what we do varies (and we'll talk it all through with you beforehand, obviously) but usually we would:

- Give you the opportunity to tell a little of your story
- Ask you one or two questions to allow you to say clearly what you believe
- Baptise you by dipping you under the water and out again
- Pray for you and ask God to fill you with his Spirit.

This is a fantastic opportunity to invite all your friends and family along to see what happens—don't be shy, people are often far more willing to visit church for an event like this than we think.

## BUT I WAS CHRISTENED...

Many Christian churches baptise or “Christen” babies or very young children. We respect their reasons (and we certainly wouldn't fall out with them about it) but we think getting baptised should be a decision made by someone who has arrived at their own faith and relationship with God. If you have been baptised as an infant we would love to baptise you as a believer.

## SO I JUST TURN UP?

You could, but we'd like to get to know you beforehand and to have the opportunity to discuss faith and your own decision to follow Jesus. You probably have lots of other questions that this leaflet hasn't covered—we'd like to answer those too (if we can!)

We run a short course called “Way In” for anyone interested in being baptised or becoming a church member. It gives us a chance to talk this all through further before you decide whether or not baptism is for you.

