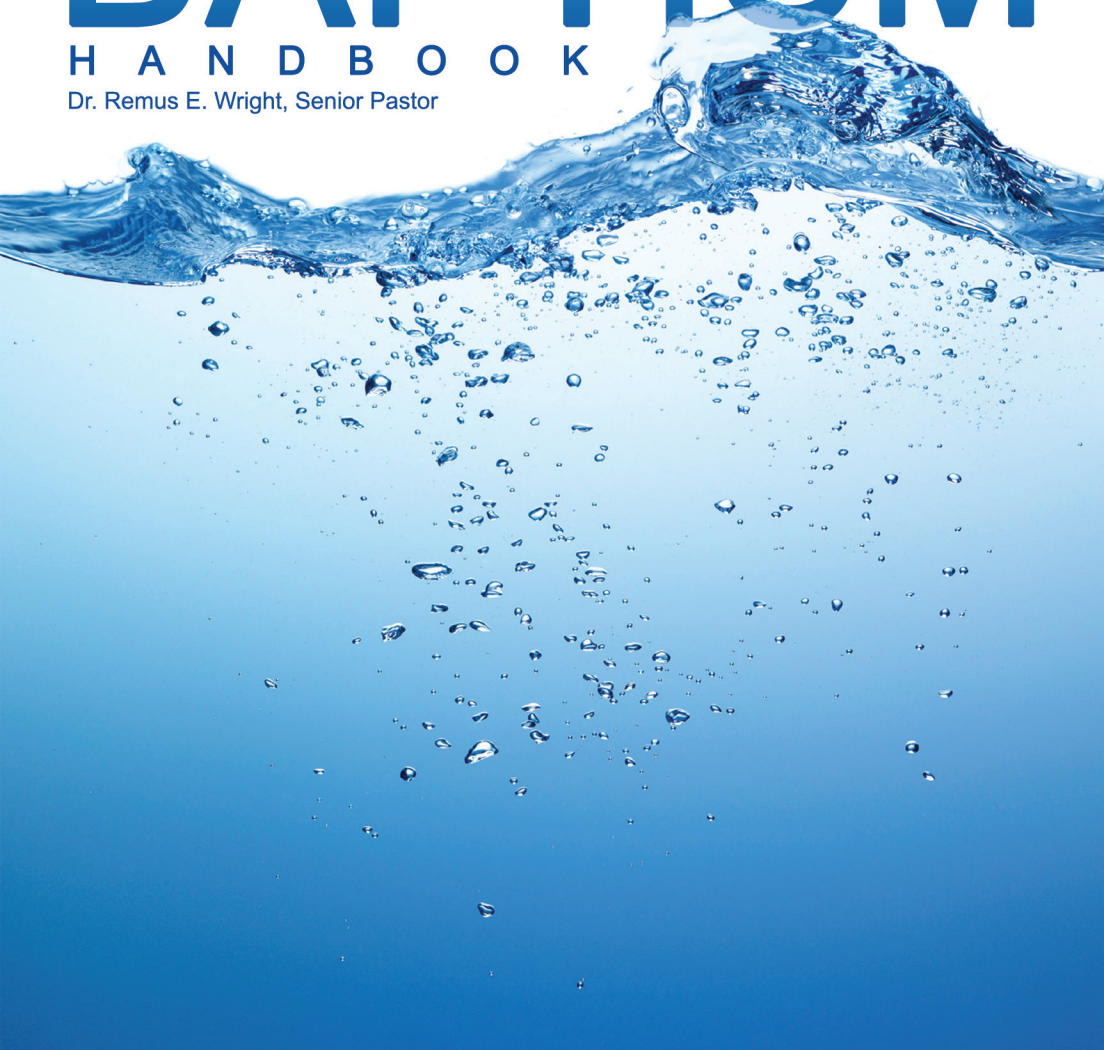


*The* FOUNTAIN *of* PRAISE

# BAPTISM

H A N D B O O K

Dr. Remus E. Wright, Senior Pastor



## **Believers Baptism**

"Vine's Expository Dictionary" gives dual meaning to the term "baptism".

- To submerge totally underwater – the physical act or outward expression.
- To be overwhelmed. The spiritual result or inward experience emanating (origination) from the preached word.

The most common statement rendered as a definition for water baptism is that this act is "an outward expression of an inward experience."

I. **Obedience:** *Jesus set the example for us to follow, even He was baptized.*

Matthew 3:15 (NIV), Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness."

II. **Symbol:** *Letting the world know that you have given your life to Christ.*

I Peter 3:21 (NIV), ...and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also- not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ...

III. **Represents:** *Christ's death, burial and resurrection.*

Romans 6:1-11 (NIV), <sup>1</sup>What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup>By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? <sup>3</sup>Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

<sup>5</sup>If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. <sup>6</sup>For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin <sup>7</sup>because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

<sup>8</sup>Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

<sup>11</sup>In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Believers Baptism" is distinguished from "Infant Baptism" in that baptism is a proclamation of ones faith and belief in Christ. This is not possible in infancy.

While there is no salvific value in water baptism, as is easy to see from the salvation without baptism received by the thief on the cross, there is a Christ likeness involved in the act of baptism in as much as Christ himself was baptized. (Matthew 3:13-17)

Luke 23:2-43...Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."

### ***Biblical Basis for Baptism***

While there are numerous scriptures relating to baptism, Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV) and Mark 16:15-16 (NIV) gives a solid foundation to the cause for Baptism.

#### **The Great Commission – Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)**

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

<sup>(19)</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father

and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

<sup>(20)</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

#### **Mark 16:15-16 (NIV)**

<sup>(15)</sup>He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.

<sup>(16)</sup>Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

# ***His Baptism***

**Matthew 3:1-6, 11-17**

(1) In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea

(2) and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

(3) This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the desert,

'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.' "

(4) John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

(5) People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.

(6) Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

(11) "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

(12) His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

(13) Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.

(14) But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

(15) Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

(16) As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him.

(17) And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

**Repent:** Repentance is a change of mind that bears fruit in changed life.

**Baptism:** Baptism is a form of identification. John's baptism was a sign of an individual's acknowledgement of his need of repentance for the remission of his sins. When Jesus was baptized by John, He identified himself with John's message of righteousness (though, being sinless, He Himself needed no cleansing from sin.)

**Baptism with the Holy Spirit:** Identifies members of the Body of Christ with Christ (I Cor 12:13). Also joins the believers to Christ, separating him from the old life and associating him with the new. He is no longer "in Adam" but is "in Christ." Water baptism is reminder of this truth. (see Romans 6:3)

**Baptism with fire:** Reference to the judgments associated with the return of Christ.



## ***How to Become a Christian***

1. **ADMIT** to God that you are a sinner and that you are turning from your sins;
2. **BELIEVE** in Jesus by thanking Him for dying and raising from the dead for your sins;
3. **COMMIT** your life to Jesus by asking Him to come into your life as your Savior and Lord.

- **GOD LOVES YOU**

John 3:16; 10:10

- **YOU ARE A SINNER IN NEED OF FORGIVENESS**

The Holy Spirit is aware of your sin.

Romans 3:23; 6:23; Hebrews 9:27

- **GOD WANTS TO FORGIVE YOU**

Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 3:18

- **YOU MUST TURN AWAY FROM YOUR SINS**

Luke 13:5; Ephesians 2:8-9



## **U MUST PLACE YOUR FAITH IN GOD'S SON, JESUS CHRIST**

Acts 20:21; John 14:6

## **YOU CAN RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST THROUGH PRAYER**

Revelation 3:20

## **YOU CAN DO THIS BY PRAYING A PRAYER LIKE THIS:**

Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner and have displeased You in many ways. I believe You died for my sins and only through faith in Your death and resurrection can I be forgiven. I want to turn from my sins and ask You to come into my life as my Savior and Lord. From this day on, I will follow you and live a life that pleases you. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for saving me. Amen





# The FOUNTAIN of PRAISE

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Sunday Service	8:00am	11:00am	HILLCROFT CAMUPUS
The ROCK Youth Church 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday (Teens and Children)		11:00am	FOUNTAINLIFE CENTER
Sunday School		10:00am	FOUNTAINLIFE CENTER
Wednesday Noon Bible Study		12:00pm	FOUNTAINLIFE CENTER
Wednesday Bible Study (Adults, Teens & Children)		7:00pm	HILLCROFT CAMUPUS
Tuesday Young Adult Bible Study		7:00pm	HILLCROFT CAMUPUS

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#### HILLCROFT CAMUPUS

13950 Hillcroft Avenue  
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#### FOUNTAINLIFE CENTER

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