

Getting Baptised at Brookside



Brookside
Church

Brookside Baptisms – *A Practical Guide*

We're so pleased!

Congratulations on making the decision to be baptised and we are so pleased to be involved in your life at one of your most significant and special moments. It's a real privilege to be able to share it with you and we want to help make it an occasion that is very special. If you have any questions or anxieties – please let us know.

Being Baptised

As you are probably already aware, baptism in water is positively encouraged for all those who have repented to God for past selfishness and have welcomed and received Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. In our view, baptism should occur as soon as possible after a person commits their life to God and becomes a Christian.

On 'the' day itself

The thought of being a focus of attention can be a daunting one! We want to re-assure you that we will do everything we can to help you to relax and enjoy the occasion. There are a few things to think about and plan for 'on the day.'

- If you can, aim to join us for prayer for 30 minutes at 9.30am at Brookside. We meet in the room immediately on the right as you enter the building.
- Prepare a short testimony that you can tell everybody. This can be a bit 'nerve-wracking' but our experience has been that The Holy Spirit always provides all the help that is needed. A testimony is the story of how you became a Christian and something of your journey with God. You should aim for 3-5 minutes maximum.

Some people are able to speak using notes to help, whilst others read out something they have written or are interviewed.

Remember that there are often people at baptisms who are not Christians, usually friends and/or family of those being baptised. This provides a great opportunity for people to hear what God is doing in your life. Try to speak using language that they will understand – not lots of Christian 'jargon!' You will give your testimony after a period of praise and worship and before you are actually baptised.

- Arrange for someone to carry a towel for you and to offer you support before and after your baptism.
- If there is a specific song that means a lot to you and you would like it included during the service, let us know in reasonable time.
- Wear clothes that are suitable for going into the water in and remember to bring a complete change of clothing!
- When you first get into the pool, relax and listen to the instructions from the two people who will be baptising you.
- Immediately after you are baptised and whilst you are still in the water (not under it!!), we will wait a while to encourage specific readings, words or prayers people might have for you. We will provide the opportunity for people to write these down so that you don't forget what is said.
- After leaving the pool you can go and get changed or if you are being baptised before others, you may wish to wait and watch them being baptised.

We do hope you enjoy your baptism and experience even more of God in your life as a result of your obedience to Him. You may well know a fresh encounter with The Holy Spirit during or after the event.

Checklist

<i>Prepare testimony</i>	
<i>Invite friends</i>	
<i>Support person</i>	
<i>Special song</i>	
<i>Change of clothes</i>	

If you have any questions, before and after your baptism, do contact your cell leader or any one of;

Steve or Anita Prince
Linda or Chris Mitchell
Chris Doughty
Lynn Chetcuti

Brookside Leadership Team