

ARMORY CHURCH

@ AYER ELEMENTARY

We are so glad you have chosen to follow our Lord Jesus in Water Baptism.

Baptism is your testimony of your commitment to Jesus Christ and your separation from your old life.

Included in this packet are several items to assist you in preparation for baptism.

BIBLE STUDY

This Bible Study is provided to help you completely understand the purpose for Water Baptism. We encourage you to complete this study prior to Baptism. You need not return this study; it is simply for your benefit.

INFORMATION CARD

The “Water Baptism Information Card” is to be filled out and **brought with you to the Baptismal Service**. This card needs to be given to the Pastor just prior to entering the water.

WHAT TO BRING

A towel and change of clothes.

(water may be treated with Chlorine)

MEN: Wear washable clothing, dark colors.

LADIES: Wear washable clothing, dark colors.

PROCEDURE

Come to service wearing what you plan to be baptized in. You will need to bring a change of clothing with you to wear after the Baptism. Listen during the service for instructions from the Pastor when to prepare for the Baptism. Generally, Baptism is done at the end of service.

You will stand next to the baptism. One at a time, the pastor will motion for you to enter the water. Take the Pastor's hand and **hand the card with your name printed on it to him**. The Pastor will help you to the microphone where you will give the short testimony you have prepared or Pastor will simply ask you a few simple questions for you to answer. After giving your witness, hold your body rigid, but remember to bend your back. The Pastor will instruct you to cross your arms and plug your nose. The Pastor will then put his arm behind your back and ease you back until you are totally immersed and bring you back up.

PREPARING YOUR 1 MINUTE TESTIMONY

Three areas are necessary:

BEFORE: Include both the positive and negative aspects of your life. For example, the positive may be your desire to excel, concern for others, hard worker, raised in a good home, etc. The negative aspects might be that you were selfish, greedy, had a bad temper, rebelled against God, etc.

HOW: Share the "Good News" in your testimony. Include these facts about salvation – the fact of sin, the penalty of sin, Christ's payment, and the need to individually receive Christ as Savior. Make the Bible the authority as you share about the necessity of praying to receive Christ.

AFTER: Name two or three benefits of being a Christian and how your life has changed. The greatest benefit is that we know we have eternal life.

General Guidelines:

1. Make it sound conversational; use informal vocabulary.
2. Use "I" and "we" and not "you". Share, don't preach.
3. Be careful of "religious" words such as "went forward", "under the blood", and "prayed through".
4. Generalize your story. Avoid specific dates, ages, churches, and groups.
5. Share humorous situations if they were part of your life.
6. Use "word pictures" to describe a situation so it can be visualized.
7. Speak as an adult, not as a child.
8. Simplify – avoid unnecessary wordiness; get directly to the point.