

# stallionspringschurch

know God. love God. live God.

## *Baptism*

The belief that baptism is necessary for salvation is also known as "baptismal regeneration." It is our belief that baptism is an important step of obedience for a Christian, but we reject baptism as being required for salvation.

We strongly believe that each and every Christian should be water baptized. Baptism illustrates a believer's identification with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. Romans 6:3-4 declares, "Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 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." The action of being immersed in the water illustrates dying and being buried with Christ. The action of coming out of the water pictures Christ's resurrection.

Requiring anything in addition to faith in Jesus Christ for salvation is a works-based salvation. To add anything to the gospel is to say that Jesus' death on the cross was not sufficient to purchase our salvation. To say that baptism is necessary for salvation is to say we must add our own good works and obedience to Christ's death in order to make it sufficient for salvation. Jesus' death alone paid for our sins (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21). Jesus' payment for our sins is appropriated to our "account" by faith alone (John 3:16; Acts 16:31; Ephesians 2:8-9). Therefore, baptism is an important step of obedience after salvation but cannot be a requirement for salvation.