

Baptism Information Sheet

We are excited that you want to be baptized! Please fill out this information sheet and then call the church office to set up a time to talk with one of the pastors. Please bring this form and an actual written testimony (approx. 5 min) to this meeting.

Name _____ Age _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ E-mail _____

Please circle Y (Yes) or N (No) for the following questions:

Are you a regular attendee of SCBC?	Y	N
Have you listened to the sermon "Believers' Baptism?"	Y	N
Do you understand the meaning/significance of baptism?	Y	N
Are you absolutely certain of your salvation?	Y	N

1. Suppose you were to die tonight and stand before God. If He were to say to you, "Why should I let you into my heaven?" what would you say? _____

2. What is a Christian? _____

3. Who is Jesus Christ? _____

4. Why do you need Christ? _____

5. What are Christians saved from? _____

6. Have you been baptized before? (If yes, please explain why you need to be baptized again) _____

7. **Important! Please attach a copy of the actual written testimony you will bring with you the night of your baptism.** Even if you are not completely finished, bring your testimony when you meet with the pastor. See "Tips for Preparing" on the reverse of this sheet and the "Be Ready" handout.

Reviewed by: _____

Baptism scheduled: _____

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Tips for Preparing Your Testimony

Part of the process of baptism at SCBC is a time of sharing your testimony with the body gathered for the baptism service. As a general rule, you are encouraged to write out your testimony beforehand, so that you can be clear and prepared when you share it in the baptism service.

The following tips are designed to help you as you prepare. For more help, talk to one of the pastors and look over the handout "*Be Ready*"—it contains more guidelines and has sample testimonies.

Tips on the General Outline

We recommend that your personal testimony focus on the following three areas:

1. **Before salvation:** Give a short sketch of what your life was like before you became a Christian. We do not need a list of sins, but a general idea of who you were, both good and bad. What was important? What were your goals? Who were you?
2. **How you were saved:** Exactly what were the circumstances of your salvation? What happened? Was there a specific event? Communicate the gospel here, and tell how you obeyed the call of God.
3. **After salvation:** What changes have you seen in your life since you became a Christian? What have been ongoing struggles? What have been benefits?

Each of the above areas should be a paragraph or two in length.

Tips on Specific Content

- Please start with your name. Even though many people know you, there may be those in the body who do not.
- Please state your understanding of the gospel clearly, including your personal statement that you have received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. This is the main purpose of the testimony.
- Please be concise, conversational, and personal. Use your normal spoken vocabulary. Try to stay within the above outline, and not necessarily give your "life story." But also feel free to make this testimony an interesting story of God's work in your life.
- Please be specific. Say exactly what you mean; don't "beat around the bush." For example, "My dad helped me understand about Jesus" is not very specific; a better statement would be "One day my dad and I discussed in some detail that Jesus Christ is God, and came to earth to die for my sin."
- Please be honest. Don't imply that your whole life has been struggle-free since your decision for Christ.
- Please concentrate on who God is and what Christ has done, not on your sin and experience.
- Please share at least one specific Scripture verse that was key in your salvation.
- Please speak in the first person – use "I" and "me."
- Please pray as you prepare. This is a wonderful opportunity to testify of God's work in your life; we are excited to share in it at to be encouraged by His work in you.