

## 2.10 Upper KS2 - Salvation - Lesson 7: Baptism

**Context:** In this lesson pupils will begin to understand how the Christian sacrament of baptism may be practiced differently but represent some shared beliefs. Pupils will understand the shared beliefs and differences between Christians who practice 'believer's baptism' and infant baptism.

Know that baptism is a Christian sacrament that shows a believer joining the Christian church.

Understand the symbolism of baptism- water cleansing from sin, buried to old life, rising to new life.

**Essential core:**

- Know that Christians believe that Jesus rose again and that faith in him will give eternal life to the believer
- Know that 'atonement' originally meant 'at-one-ment', which means being 'at one' or in harmony with someone.

**Resources:** <http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/believers-baptism>

<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/infant-baptism>

<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/confirmation-video>

<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/baptism>

**Vocabulary:** Christian, saviour, sacrifice, forgiveness, baptism, sacrament, symbolism

**Introduction:**

Discuss groups pupils have belonged to/still belong to. Did they make a promise ( Scouts, Brownies) does belonging to a group bring with it rights and responsibilities ( teamwork, thinking of others)

Show the film clips which explain why people go through baptism in order to publicly show they belong to the Christian family of God. <http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/baptism>;

<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/believers-baptism>

Discuss the symbolism of going down under the water- burying old life, showing sin has been forgiven ( Romans 6 v4) Why is believer's baptism carried out in this way? What is the symbolism for coming up out of the water? Why do you think these churches do not baptise very young children?

**Build up:** show film clip that explains infant baptism. What does the water symbolise? ( 1 Peter 3 v21)

What role do the godparents have? What promises do the family members involved make?

In these churches the very young children will have the opportunity to make their promises to follow Jesus for themselves, when they are older, in Confirmation. Watch the very short Confirmation film clip.

**Task:**

Pupils to write a short paragraph about the difference between infant and believer's baptism with particular emphasis on the difference between the two and noting the symbolism involved- linking back to the essential core.

Ensure pupils have a clear understanding of the difference.

**Plenary and formative assessment:**

Why are Christians baptised? Why is being a part of the Christian church so important to a believer?

What promises are made? What is a Christian? Do pupils agree/disagree that the symbolic act of baptism helps to reinforce the message that the old life has been 'buried' and a new life begun?