

What Does Baptism Mean? (6.28 minutes)

The following Youtube clip explains the view of baptism held by the Roman Catholic Church. Many nonconformist and all Baptist churches do not accept infant baptism as true to the Bible – arguing for ‘believer’s baptism’. There is a worksheet which goes with this short film.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05YB2jdHLsY>

STARTER WORKSHEET – WHY INFANT BAPTISM?

1. What are the three sacraments (holy rituals which convey the special grace of God) of initiation? Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion.
2. “By means of these sacraments of initiation Christians receive the treasures of eternal life”.
3. Why do children need cleansing? To be cleansed from original sin and brought into the family of the children of God.
4. Jesus' final words were “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them”.
5. Baptism imprints on the soul “an indelible character – because of the character it cannot be repeated”.
6. What do the four symbols mean – water (cleansing), oil (anointing), white robe (righteousness), candle (to go out as a light to the world).
7. Can anyone baptise? Yes – in emergency using the words ‘I baptise you in the name of the father, Son and Holy Spirit’.
8. What are the common misconceptions? Godparents don't need to be married, adult baptism is alive and well, and special water is not needed.