

A dynamic splash of water in shades of blue and white, with bubbles and droplets, creating a sense of movement and freshness. The water is splashing from the bottom left towards the top right.

New Life
CHURCH CRAWLEY

WATER
BAPTISM

We go back to the first baptismal service
where 3,000 got baptised.

What was the message?

The first Christians put it this way Acts 2:38-39



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Acts 2:38-39

"Each of you must turn from your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This promise is to you and to your children-all who have been called by the Lord our God."



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In plain English: You need to change your mind and turn your life around towards God.

Turn right, a U turn in the direction of following God and do it now!



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REPENT

Turn from sins & turn to God.

Image of sandwich board men
saying “the end is nigh”



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1. Repentance involves OUR UNDERSTANDING



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**Sin = a failure to worship God with
our heart, soul, mind & strength.**

- Our natural life is sinful because it is centred upon self rather than upon God.
- Every person born into the world is a sinner. Rom 3:23
- Expressing the sinful nature with which we are born
Psalm 51:5.



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2. Repentance involves OUR EMOTIONS



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REMORSE/REGRET VERSUS REPENTANCE

- We can feel bad about certain behaviour, we call it “remorse” but that needs to lead to change in behaviour.
- If we truly recognise our state before God then we will have a deep sense of sorrow at what sin has done in our lives,
- Only removed when we have turned away from it and received God's forgiveness.



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“For God sometimes uses sorrow in our lives to help us turn away from sin and seek eternal life. We should never regret his sending it. But the sorrow of the man who is not a Christian is not the sorrow of true repentance and does not prevent eternal death.

Just see how much good this grief from the Lord did for you! You no longer shrugged your shoulders but became earnest and sincere and very anxious to get rid of the sin that I wrote you about. You became frightened about what had happened and longed for me to come and help. You went right to work on the problem and cleared it up”

2 Cor 7:10-11



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3. Repentance involves OUR WILL



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- It is a decision to change the whole direction of one's life, a u turn & follow Jesus
- To start a new life living under the rule of God.
- Turning to God is saying “I’ll change course & live my life the way you want me to. I’ll do it your way”



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BAPTISM

- Common word used of dyeing clothes and of washing dishes.
- Symbol used in bible for a death to one way of life & rising to a new way of living.
- Publicly declare & demonstrate a change has taken place.
- It is an act of obedience.



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Romans 6:3-4

“when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death. For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.”



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WHAT IS BAPTISM VIDEO – 2 MINS

<https://youtu.be/29ipPg2y-K0?si=Nt9TFLzkEMX-x8ac>



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FORGIVENESS

- God gave us his only son so that we might have forgiveness from the burden & penalty of our sin, it cost him a lot but that is how much he loves us. (Romans 5:8)
- Authority is in name of Jesus - no-one else can guarantee your forgiveness.
- There is **NO OTHER NAME** under heaven (Acts 4:12)



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RECEIVE & BELIEVE

John 1:12

“To all who did RECEIVE him, to those who BELIEVED in his name, he gave the right to become children of God”



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HOLY SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit is not a vague influence or force,
- He is a person, third person of the Trinity.
- He is fully God, yet He is right inside our lives to bring us into a greater knowledge of God and enables us to live in His power (John 7:38-39).
- Gift for all PEOPLE, for ALL TIME



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INVITATION IS FOR ALL OF US:

“Change your life. Turn to God and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, so your sins are forgiven. Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is targeted to you and your children, but also to all who are far away--whomever, in fact, our Master God invites.”

Acts 2:38-39 Message Bible



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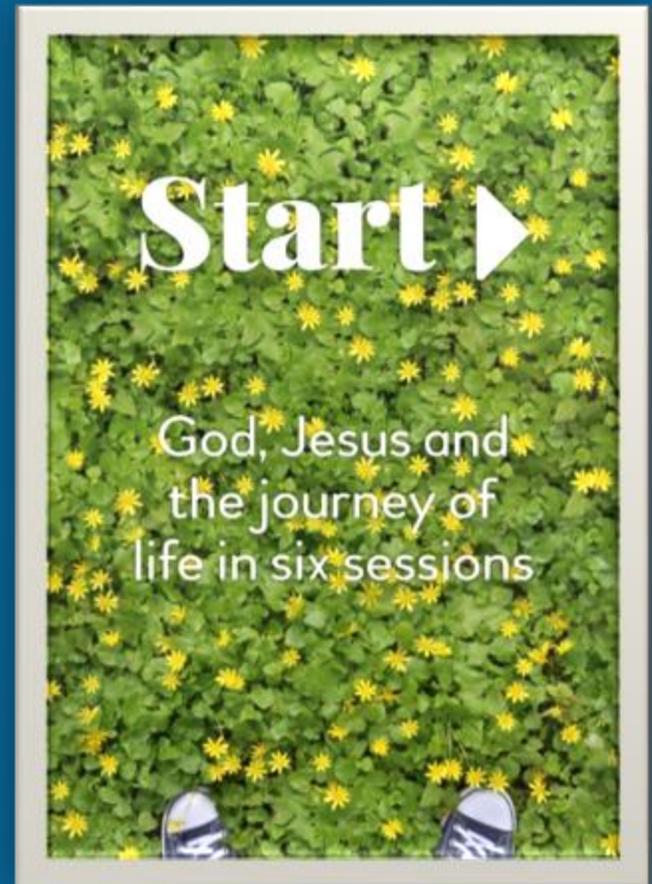
“Dear God, I am sorry for the things I have done wrong in my life & not allowing you to lead my life. Please forgive me. I now turn away from everything I know is wrong. Thank you that you died on the cross for me so that I could be forgiven. I ask you to come into my life by your Holy Spirit to be with me forever. In the name of Jesus. Amen!”



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FIND OUT MORE?

- Short Video links
newlifecrawley.church/explore
- START course in new year
(God, Jesus and the journey of life
in six sessions.)



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