

You got baptized. You went under the water and came back up expecting something to feel different, something to shift instantly. And now you're sitting there wondering why everything still feels the same. The same thoughts. The same struggles. The same questions. It can feel confusing, even discouraging. But what happened in that moment was not dependent on your feelings. Something real took place, even if you cannot feel it yet.

Baptism is not a performance that produces instant emotion. It is a picture of a finished reality. "We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead... we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4 ESV). You did not go into that water to become new. You went into that water because in Christ, you already are.

What you are feeling right now does not cancel what God has done. Feelings are real, but they are not always reliable. Truth is. "For we walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7 ESV). You are not meant to measure your transformation by what you feel in the moment. You are invited to trust what God has already declared over you.

The change God brings is deeper than surface emotions. It begins in your identity. "For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3 ESV). Hidden means it is secure, even when it is not visible. You may not see everything yet, but that does not mean nothing has happened.

Sometimes we expect transformation to feel dramatic, but often it unfolds quietly. Like seeds planted beneath the soil, growing before anything appears above ground. "So is the kingdom of God... the seed sprouts and grows he knows not

how” (Mark 4:26–27 ESV). Growth does not always announce itself. But it is happening.

You are not the same person who went into that water, even if your thoughts have not caught up yet. God has already spoken something true about you. “And such were some of you But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 6:11 ESV). Washed means something has already been done, not something you are waiting to feel.

The struggle you feel now is not proof that nothing changed. It is often the space where you are learning to believe what is already true. “Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth” (Colossians 3:2 ESV). Transformation happens as your thinking begins to align with your new identity.

God is not waiting for you to feel different before He calls you new. He has already made you new in Christ. “He saved us... by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:5 ESV). That renewal is real, even if it feels slow. It is not fragile. It is rooted in what Jesus has finished.

Do not go back to thinking something is wrong with you. Do not let disappointment convince you that nothing happened. The enemy would love to turn your attention back to your feelings instead of your identity. But the truth is stronger than what you feel today.

Keep walking. Keep trusting. Keep coming back to what God says is true about you. Over time, your life will begin to reflect what has already been made true in Christ. Not because you forced it, but because you believed it. You got baptized. That was not the end. It was the beginning of learning to live from a new identity. You are not waiting to

become new. You are learning to walk in the newness that is already yours because of Jesus.