

Quick Overview

My takeaway from this message is:

This week I am going to:

Looking back over your sermon notes, was there any particular point or passage of scripture that most challenged, confused, or caught your attention?

Introduction

There tends to be a lot of confusion surrounding baptism. And while the topic often evokes strong emotions, it is not a subject in which people have much to draw from, other than their own experience. For this reason we will spend some time exploring what the Bible has to say about baptism and how this informs our understanding of this universal Christian practice.

My Story

1. Have you been baptized? What was your experience?
2. What was your understanding of baptism in the environment you grew up?

Exploring

1. Read Matthew 3:1-17 and John 3:22-4:2. Baptism, with its roots in Jewish ceremonial cleansing, was for John and Jesus a public declaration of a brand new association. Why did Jesus consider it important for people to be baptized (Matthew 28:19)?
2. Who should be baptized? Infants, children, adults?

3. What is the connection between baptism and salvation? Is baptism necessary for salvation?

4. Is the method of baptism important? Why or why not?

5. What is the value in the method of baptism used at your church?

Next Steps

1. Think about the countless people who have shared in the Christian practice of baptism, from a remote tribe in Pakistan to a church in Lake Wylie, South Carolina. How does it make you feel when you realize you are connected in this way, not only with Christ, but also with Christians all over the world and throughout history?
2. Have you gone public with your faith? Are you ready to be baptized?
3. Memorize Matthew 28:19-20.

NEW RIVER NEWS

Downpour

Sometimes the Bible seems vague, and sometimes it seems poignantly clear. But when it comes to God's intention for family there are no ambiguities in Scripture. God desires for children and parents to turn their hearts toward each other and have a relationship. We must prioritize relationship regardless of the cost. Middle School & High School Students, don't miss Downpour this Sunday at 6:00 pm at the South Campus.

Easter Weekend

Don't miss one of the Easter Celebration Services April 3rd and 4th. We'd like to invite you to celebrate Easter by bringing nonperishable food items for those in need in the Lake Wylie area. Also begin praying about who you will invite to join you for this exciting weekend of worship and celebration.

Mission 29710

Join us Sat., April 17th as we share the love of Jesus through local mission projects including Coke and hotdog giveaways, yard work, and light construction. We'll meet at New River North at 10am and wrap up all projects by 1pm. Sign-Up today by filling out a connection card.

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