



Small Group Study Guide for January 9, 2022

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: As we remember and celebrate Jesus' baptism, we marvel at how our own Baptism links us to the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. In our baptism, we receive our identity, purpose, and hope.

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

1. Our Savior had 33 baptisms last year – 14 infants, 13 students, and 6 adults. Did you know any of those families? Why is baptism something we should be celebrating?
2. Is there someone you know who is not yet baptized that you are praying for? (note: Getting Ready for Baptism brochures are in our lobby and on our website under Faith Resources)

In the Word: Read Romans 6:1-11

3. Why is it important that we were united with Christ in His death? What is the significance of having “died with Christ” and been buried with Him through baptism, according to these verses?
4. What is the significance in this passage of having “been raised with Christ” and living a new life through Baptism? Look for a list of words and phrases that describe the new life in these verses.

In the Word: Read Mark 1:4-11

5. Mark records the purpose and significance of John's baptism in the Jordan River. What was it?
6. John baptized with water. Jesus would certainly also baptize with water, but Jesus' baptism would be different. What would Jesus' baptism include, according to John (vs 8)? What evidence can you come up with to demonstrate the fulfillment of John's prophecy?

7. Identify all three persons of the Trinity (God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) in the baptism of Jesus (verses 9-11) and what they are doing or saying.

Father –

Son –

Holy Spirit –

8. Jesus didn't need to be baptized 'for the forgiveness of sins' like every other person. Instead, He is baptized so that everyone who is baptized into Jesus' name can be linked to Him. **Read Matthew 3:13-15** to listen into the dialogue between John and Jesus. Why is Jesus' baptism another example of His coming down to be our Savior?

Putting it all Together (what do we believe or do as disciples?)

9. How does your Baptism give you your identity?

10. How does your Baptism give you your purpose in life?

11. How does your Baptism give you hope?

Prayer: Praise God for the gift of Baptism, and ask for the Holy Spirit to keep us in our baptismal grace and to be always mindful of its blessings. Ask the Lord to strengthen us in our identity, purpose, and hope as we walk in newness of life. Praise God for the many baptisms we have had at Our Savior and ask God to keep all of them strong in faith as they grow in Him.

Next Week: We will look at Samuel's call from God in 1 Samuel 3:1-10, and how God calls us into His service.