

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Bible Text: Matthew 3:1-17; Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 28:19-20; Colossians 3:1-14

Lesson Focus: In baptism we join the family of faith and receive God's promises of forgiveness, salvation, and new life.

Big Question: What really happens during baptism?

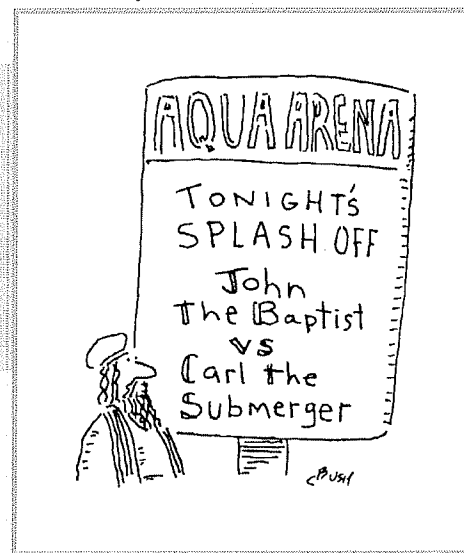
Key Words: BORN AGAIN, INFANT BAPTISM, DAILY REPENTANCE, BODY OF CHRIST

BIBLE CONNECTION

-] Baptism is a physical sign of the forgiveness we receive each day through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.
-] Baptism is free. You don't have to be a grown-up, be graduated, or do sermon notes to be baptized. Anyone of any age or background is welcome.
-] At baptism you are made a member of God's family, a brother or sister with all the baptized. Your baptismal family is all about love, forgiveness, help, care, and welcome.
-] In baptism you inherit eternal life, receive the forgiveness of sins, and are freed to new life with God forever.
-] All baptized people are members of the priesthood of all believers who share in the ministry of the church.

CARTOON CONNECTION

-] What's the craziest thing you've done or seen in worship?
-] What's the holiest thing you've done or seen in worship?
-] If you could ask John one question, what would it be?



STUDENT BOOK CONNECTION

Here We Stand Student Book page 130: The Anatomy of a Baptism

-] What is the role of a parent at the baptism and beyond?
-] What is the role of a sponsor or godparent at the baptism and beyond?
-] What is the role of the congregation members (that's you!) at the baptism and beyond?

Here We Stand Student Book page 179: Family Tree of Christianity

-] What do you know about your own family tree?
-] Do you recognize any other denominations on the tree? Which ones?
-] When you look at the different groups on the family tree, which do you think is more important: our differences or our similarities? Why?

LIFE CONNECTION

Do you ever use the germ-killing gel that people carry with them to "wash" their hands when there is no water? While it may indeed kill nasty germs that can make you sick, it doesn't replace good old soap and water. Germs and sin aren't so different; humans can't seem to keep themselves clean. Our baptism is lather enough to wash away our sins our entire lives. Remember that the next time you suds up! Write this on a sticky note and put it by a bar of soap near a sink in your home: "When you wash your face, remember your baptism." Martin Luther said that!

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Word Scramble

Unscramble the words to answer the clues below.

1. FNROSGIVESE

2. EEATRNL EFIL

3. PCSEIDIL

4. LYOH STRIIP

5. OSSCR

6. NRSSOSOP

7. ODWR

8. DLNACE

1. One of the primary benefits of baptism.
2. The other primary benefit of baptism. (two words)
3. Once baptized, you are a _____.
4. Present at the baptism; another word for God. (two words)
5. Pastor makes this sign on a person's forehead at baptism.
6. Another name for godparents.
7. Baptism is done with water and _____.
8. Used at baptism to remind us of the light of Christ.

Answers: 1. forgiveness 2. eternal life 3. disciple 4. Holy Spirit 5. cross 6. sponsors 7. word 8. candle