Message: Baptism Celebrating Forgiveness

May 22, 2011

NEXT STEPS

Celebrating Forgiveness

Four big reasons to be baptized

- Obedience
- Identification
- Washing
- Celebration

When is a Good time to be baptized...<u>Now</u>

Use these study questions to turn a message into a conversation. Join with a life group and continue to grow by using these study questions this week.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

What impact does celebrating baptism together build community in the church?

What impact does it have on your faith?

Consider sharing what your baptism experience meant to you

DIGGING DEEPER

The Story of Jesus' Baptism

Both John and Jesus have ministries of baptism (Matt 3: 11-12). How are their baptisms similar and different?

Why do you think John was hesitant to baptize Jesus (Matt 3:13-14)?

What does Jesus' willingness to be baptized suggest about him (Matt 3:15) In what ways was Jesus' baptism different from others?

What significance do you see in the dove and the voice from heaven at Jesus' baptism (vv. 16-17)?

One of Satan's tricks is to cause believers to doubt their salvation. Having assurance means being certain with a freedom from doubt. Meditate on the following Scriptures to enable you to have victory over your doubts.

What do we learn about assurance in:

Ephesians 1:7

John 10:27-29

1 Peter 1:5

1 John 5:13

Romans 8:38-39

Philippians 1:6

Take it home

Consider memorizing the following verse to help you hold tight to the assurance of salvation in Christ.

Assurance

Philippians 1:6, NIV

"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Tips to help you memorize scripture (From the Billy Graham Association)

A sequence for memorizing:

1. Reference 2. Verse 3. Reference.

The reference is normally more difficult to remember than the verse; that is why it should be repeated before and after the verse. The reference is like the handle on a suitcase, enabling you to lift up from the Bible a complete portion whenever needed.

- The real secret of Scripture memory is review, Review, REVIEW.
- Quote the verse aloud. Ask God to make its meaning clear and applicable to you. Memorize one phrase at a time, using the reference, adding phrase by phrase until the entire verse is committed to memory.