**Series: Getting Better** 

Message: Baptism – What are we Celebrating?

November 13, 2011

# Celebrating Getting Better

- I am a Christ follower when I commit to follow Jesus Christ.
- I am forgiven when I ask to be forgiven.
- I am made new when I believe.

## Why be baptized?

Matthew 28:19-20; Matthew 3:13-17; Acts 2:41, 8:12; 10:47-48, 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:3-10; Colossians 2:12

- Obedience- He asks me too.
- Identification- I am a Christ follower.
- Confession- I am a new creation.
- Celebration- Rejoice together at what Christ has done.

### **NEXT STEPS**

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.

### **MY STORY**

This week we celebrated baptism as a community. We celebrated God's amazing grace and his power to change lives.

Answer these questions:

Who do you say Jesus is? Matthew 16:15

What does it mean to you to be a Christ follower?

### **GOING DEEPER**

Baptism and communion our two of the commands that Jesus gives us as a follower of Christ.

Examine the following passages. How can you have assurance of God's saving grace in your life?

John 3:16

John 10:27-29

1 John 5:12-13

Communion or the Lord's Supper is a symbol of the new covenant or promise that we have with God through Jesus Christ.

Read Matthew 26:17-30—this tells the story of the last supper.

Paul speaks to the church about communion in Corinthians

Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

Communion reminds us that Christ died for us.

Communion is remembering.

Communion is following what Jesus asks us to do.

Communion is a time to examine our relationship with Christ. (vv. 26-28)

Communion is to commune (share in common) with God and other believers.

God's ultimate will for our life is that we know Him and experience the blessings that come from living our life for Him. The death of Jesus is what covers our sins and enables us to have a relationship with a holy and perfect God. Remembering this is why we, as Christ followers, celebrate the Lord's Supper. As preparation for communion with your group, read 1 Peter 1:17-23; and Matthew 20:28 reflecting on the Last Supper and what Jesus has done for you personally.

Celebrate together the amazing love and Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Together we are His church.

#### TAKING IT HOME

Growing with God:

We grow in our relationship with God in the same way we grow with a relationship with a friend.

We talk to Him.

We listen to Him.

We talk to and listen others who know Him.

We tell others about Him who have not met Him yet.

Use this week to take action to grow closer to God.

### PRAYER REQUESTS