

Discovering the Christian Faith

Session 9: A Sacred Relationship

Baptism



Baptism

What is Baptism?

- “Baptize” means to “*apply water.*”
- Baptism is water used with God’s word and by his Command.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”



Matthew 28:19-20

What is Baptism?

- The outward act of baptism signifies the inward washing away of our sins.

“And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.”

Acts 22:16



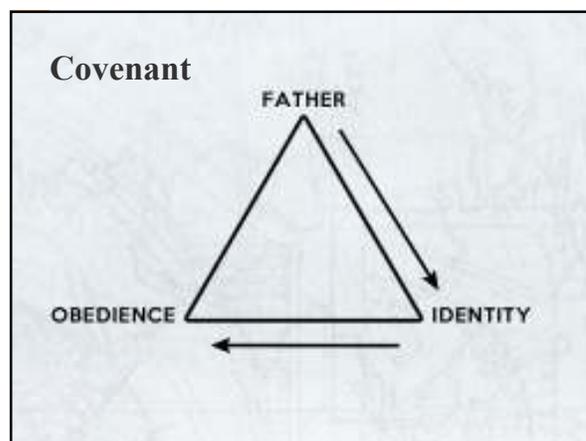
What is Baptism?

- Jesus’ baptism is the model for our baptism.

“At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”



Matthew 3:16-17



The Blessings of Baptism



CHRIST

“So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”

Galatians 3:26-27

The Blessings of Baptism



FORGIVENESS HOLY SPIRIT

“Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”

Acts 2:38

The Blessings of Baptism



SALVATION

“And this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 3:21

The Blessings of Baptism



MADE PART OF THE BODY

“For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink..”

1 Corinthians 12:13

The Blessings of Baptism



REBIRTH AND RENEWAL

“He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.”

Titus 3:5

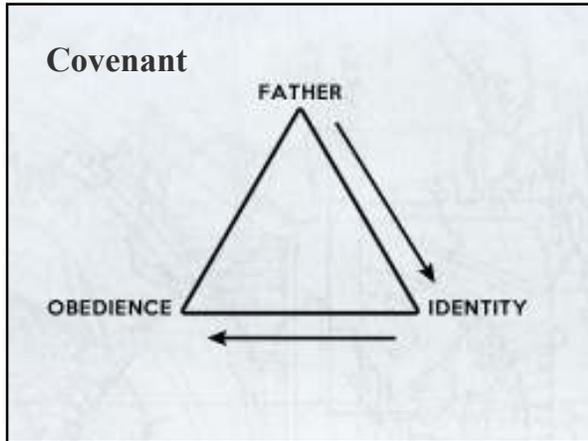
The Blessings of Baptism



CONNECTED TO THE CROSS AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST BEGINNING A NEW LIFE

“What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means!... Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”

Romans 6:1-4



Why do we baptize infants?

Why We Baptize Infants:

- They are included in "all nations" in Matthew 28:19.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

Why We Baptize Infants:

- They are included in "your children" in Acts 2:39

"The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Acts 2:39

Why We Baptize Infants:

- Jesus invites the little children.

"When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.'"

Mark 10:14-15

Why We Baptize Infants:

- They need Christ

"Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me."

Psalms 51:5

Why We Baptize Infants:

- The example of circumcision

“For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised.”

Genesis 17:12



Why We Baptize Infants:

- The example of circumcision

“In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.”

Colossians 2:11-12



Why We Baptize Infants:

- Babies can have a saving relationship with God

“Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother's breast.”

Psalm 22:9



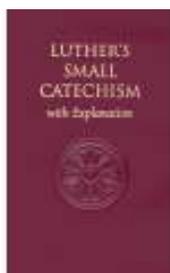
Can anyone be saved without Baptism?

- Only unbelief cuts us off from God.
- Anyone who believes in Christ will want to be baptized.



The Small Catechism

- Baptism
 - Questions 239-260
 - Pages 204-216



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