

How God Saves People through Jesus

19. Baptism: *God's visible Word!*

- a. Saved and reborn: "He saved us through the _____ of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit..." (Titus 3:5).
- b. Clothed with Christ: "For all of you who were _____ into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ [thus covered with Jesus' sinless life, which He lived in our place]" (Galatians 3:27).



20. Bible: *God's written / spoken Word!*

- a. Made spiritually alive: God "chose to give us [spiritual] birth through the _____ of truth ..." (James 1:18).
- b. Born again: "...you have been born again [first physically, here spiritually], not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of _____" (1 Peter 1:23).



Those who believe through the Bible desire to be baptized into Christ; see Acts 8:30-38.

Knowledge and Action of Believers

21. They know the importance of continuing in Christ: "...he who stands firm to the _____ will be saved" (Matthew 10:22).
22. They know God is at work through the Word to keep them in Christ: "Now I commit you to God and to the _____ of his _____ [to the Bible], which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified" (Acts 20:32).

23. They desire to receive the Word in Divine Service, Bible Study, and daily devotion:

- a. "Let us not give up _____ together, as some are in the habit of doing..." (Heb. 10:25).
- b. "..._____ to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught..." (Colossians 2:6-7).
- c. "If you _____ to my teaching, you are really my disciples" (John 8:31).
- d. God "who _____ a good work in you will carry it on to _____ until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6).

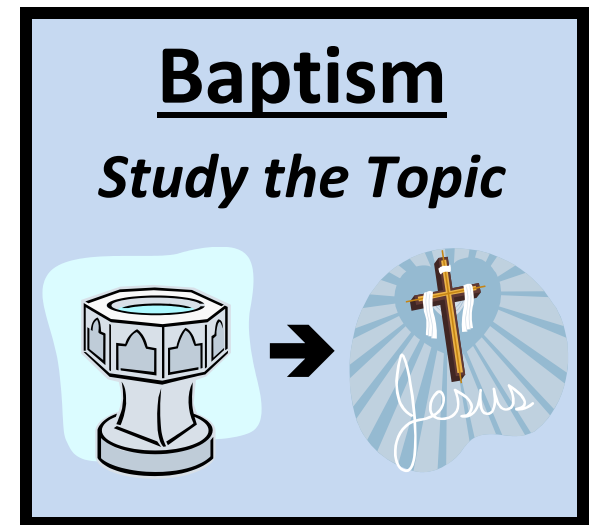
Remember Your Baptism

- Make the sign of the cross: Before you pray, before you receive the Sacrament, or whenever you need encouragement!
- How to make the sign of the cross: Bring your thumb and first two fingers together (*three together for the Triune God*); touch your forehead (*when saying "Father"*), chest (*"Son"*), right shoulder (*"Holy"*), and left shoulder (*"Spirit"*) – or left to right, *either way reminds us of our baptism into Christ!*

How to Connect With Us

Website: BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com
Location: 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134
(Just South of Pleasant Valley Road)
Schedule: See our "Join Us" brochure
Facebook: "Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma"
Podcast: "Benefit from the Bible"
Contact: 440-845-2230; RevRLGreen@aol.com

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Introduction

Baptism is a *mysterious* and *powerful* way in which *the Triune God is at work to save us!* To describe Baptism in more detail: God the Father works through Baptism, *by the Holy Spirit through the water and the Word, to save people through Jesus!*

Baptism is God's work, but He wants us to understand more about the BIG PICTURE:
♦ His work of creation, ♦ our fall into sin,
♦ Jesus' work to remove our sins, ♦ the blessings we have through Jesus, and ♦ how to go forward as Christians, so please:

- Complete this study – *by looking up the Bible passages in a NIV (New International Version) Bible (if you need one, just let us know).*
- Write down your questions – *so we can help you to better understand.*
- Contact the pastor – *to set a meeting date, time, and location.*

Think about the BIG PICTURE
– from creation to heaven –
as you work through this study!

Everything God Created Was Perfect

1. “Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the _____ of the ends of the earth” (Isaiah 40:28).



2. “God saw all that he had made, and it was very _____” (Genesis 1:31).

☹ Everyone Fell with Adam ☹

3. “...the LORD God commanded the man, ‘...you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and _____, for when you eat of it you will surely _____’” (Genesis 2:16-17).

4. “When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the _____, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he _____ it” (Genesis 3:6).



5. “...just as _____ entered the world through one _____, and death through sin, and in this way death came to _____ men” (Romans 5:12).

☹ Sad Consequences of the Fall ☹

6. “Surely I was sinful at _____, sinful from the time my mother _____ me” (Psalm 51:5).
7. “But your iniquities [lack of righteousness; wickedness; sins] have _____ you from your God” (Isaiah 59:2).
8. “...you were _____ in your transgressions and _____” (Ephesians 2:1).

How Good Is Good Enough?

9. “...unless your righteousness _____ that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:20).
10. This is God’s standard; He said: “Be _____, because I am _____” (1 Peter 1:16).

☺ Jesus’ Work to Save All People ☺

11. Lived a sinless life: He was “tempted in every way, just as we are-- yet was _____ sin” (Hebrews 4:15).
12. Received all sin: “...the LORD [God the Father] has laid on him [His Son] the iniquity [the wickedness, the sin] of us _____” (Isaiah 53:6).
13. Received all punishment: “He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins [so Jesus’ blood covers our sins], and not only for ours but also for the sins of the _____ world” (1 John 2:2).



14. Died for all sins: “For Christ died for sins once for _____, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God” (1 Peter 3:18).
15. Rose victorious: “He is not here; he has _____, just as he said” (Matthew 28:6).



No One Can Unite Himself to Jesus

16. God must change people’s minds: “...the sinful mind is _____ to God. It does not submit to God’s law, nor _____ it do so” (Romans 8:7).
17. God must give people spiritual discernment: “The man without the _____ does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he _____ understand them, because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Corinthians 2:14).
18. God must draw people unto Jesus – Jesus said: “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me _____ him... has _____ him” (John 6:44, 65).

As a magnet draws metal to itself, so God the Father draws sinners to Jesus!

