

4. In what sense was Jesus' baptism and ministry a correction of John's message?

SERIES: The Rescue Begins

SERMON 7: "The Powerfully Important Message in Jesus' Baptism...and Ours"

TEXT: Matthew 3:1-17

DATE: May 5/6, 2018

5. What does our baptism signify and mean according to Romans 6:1-14?

A ROAD

Matthew 3:1-3

John's message is this: A proper road for the King is a _____ people.

Repentance:

• M_____

• E_____

• W_____

6. How can we more consistently live the truth of our baptism?

Repentance is not a change in the way you live; it is a change in the _____ of your life that _____ in a changed life.

You can't get right with God by _____ for him.

7. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

WATER

Matthew 3:4-6

Baptism was a physical _____ of the cleansing that God brings to our lives.

AN AX & FIRE

Matthew 3:7-12

The “street corner” repentance message doesn’t win converts; it’s delivered almost exclusively _____ converts.

A DOVE

Matthew 3:13-17

John has been promising an ax and fire but he gets a _____.

Before Jesus _____ with an ax and fire, he will experience the ax and fire himself so that those of us who repent don’t have to.

Lessons of the Dove:

- Jesus will not always play the _____ we expect.
- Jesus not only calls us to listen and watch, but to _____ in his footsteps.
- If we follow Jesus, the words Jesus heard from the Father are also the Father’s words _____.

Family Discussion Questions:

1. How has this session strengthened our family’s understanding of baptism?
2. As a family, discuss how you would explain to someone the importance of baptism.
3. Why should Christians stress the importance of personal repentance today?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus’ baptism shows us that Jesus completely obeyed God and identified with sinners by being baptized like sinners are baptized. His baptism points to his death on the cross and resurrection from the grave. For those of us in Christ, the words spoken over Jesus at his baptism are also true of us—we are the Father’s beloved children in whom he takes delight.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week’s sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Read Matthew 3:1-17. Why is it so important to realize that repentance is not a change in behavior rather than a change in direction?
3. What are some the ways we physically represent what is on your hearts in worship and in our daily lives?

THEOLOGICAL THEME

In his baptism, Jesus identifies with his sinful people.