



TALK IT OVER

Our Talk It Over is prepared each week by the teaching pastor and is designed to prompt insights, questions and dialogue based on the life experience of each listener. Using these in a group setting after hearing the message is similar to the practices of the early church in Israel.

A New Way of Seeing Baptism

Warm Up:

If you've been baptized, do you remember your baptism? What do you recall about your baptism experience?

Just like baptism is an outward symbol of an inward reality, what are other practices or symbols in your life that remind you of your faith? (Ex: a wedding ring, a cross necklace, communion, journaling, etc.)



Consider/Discuss:

1. Why is the image of washing a meaningful symbol for the discovery of who we really are in Jesus Christ? Why do you think early Christians chose this image or symbol (washing or bathing) over other possible images?
2. How would you explain to someone who was unfamiliar with the Christian faith what baptism was or why Christians continue to practice it?
3. Read Ephesians 1:3-14. According to this text, who are we really? What do we possess? How does Baptism help us better understand who we are in Jesus Christ?
4. Which of the three truths—*I am God's creation, I am loved by God, I am forgiven by God*—is easiest for you to believe? Which one do you wrestle with the most?
5. Baptism is described as a symbol of “washing away the junk” that clouds who we really are. What “junk” (habits, fears, lies, patterns) do you feel clutters your view of your true identity in Christ right now?
6. Baptism is also a declaration of the path we choose to follow—the way of Jesus. What daily or weekly habits help you stay on that path? Where do you feel you might need to recommit?