

HOME TALK

Making Disciples in the Middle of Everyday Life Mt 28:20a



Talking about The Sacrament of Baptism

352 How can baptism bring forgiveness of sins when Jesus is our only Savior?

The same Word of God that tells us that Jesus is our only Savior tells us also that baptism saves us. Therefore, we see that baptism is a means of grace through which Christ forgives us our sins (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:20-21; Galatians 3:27).

353 How can water do such great things?

Water used in baptism does not do anything by itself because it is ordinary water. However, when this water is joined to the Word of God and used according to the command of Christ, it is Christian Baptism, and it becomes the gracious water of life as St. Paul writes to Titus, "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, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior..." (Titus 3:5-6).

354 What is the meaning of baptism with water?

Baptism with water means that we have been identified with Christ by being "...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 6:4).

355 How can you be kept in fellowship with God after baptism?

I am kept in fellowship with God only through the power of the Holy Spirit, who lives within me and ministers to me through Word and Sacrament.

John 14:26-27 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

Philippians 1:3,6 "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you...And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."

Colossians 2:6-7 "Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."

Scriptures are noted in the English Standard Version

