



Sermon Study Guide for January 12, 2025

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: Jesus first step into His public ministry is His baptism in the Jordan by John. John wasn't the Messiah, and has some heated words about what the One who was to come would do!

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

1. What is the best gift you've ever received? Do you still have it?

2. What do you think of John the Baptist? How do you think the people of his day responded to him?

In the Word: Romans 6:1-11

3. "We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?" What does it mean that we no longer live in sin?

4. When you are united to someone, you have a commonality. What is that commonality that we have with Jesus?

5. What does it mean that we are baptized not only into Christ's death, but also His resurrection?

6. "In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus." Thanks be to God! What does it mean to be alive in Christ?

7. **Read Luke 3:15-22** John's words about Jesus are quite heated, literally! How would you expect the people hearing John to react to these harsh words about the one who would follow him?

8. The words that the Father speaks to His Son, Jesus, He speaks also to us in our own Baptism. What joy does that give to you?

Putting it all Together (what do we believe or do as disciples?)

9. The benefits that Baptism gives, are forgiveness of sins, rescue from death and the devil, and eternal salvation. Having received those gifts in your Baptism, what freedom does that give, and how can we share about Baptism?

10. Baptism is a gift. It is nothing that we do, but a free gift from God our Heavenly Father. That is one of the most comforting thoughts we can have. What joy does that bring, and how can you share that joy with others?

Prayer: Thank God for sending His Son Jesus into the world to take our place, and bear our sins. Thank God for giving us the gift of salvation, which was paid for by the blood of Christ. Ask God that he would work in the hearts and minds of those that you know that are not baptized, to come to the font. Thank God for your Baptism.

Next Week: We will have a guest preacher, B.J. Fouts from Camp Concordia. His theme is, 'A New Name.' Isaiah promised the people of Israel a new name, given by the Lord, with the promise of redemption and restoration. When we are in Christ, we are a new creation!