

## First Communion Class

### What is Baptism?

1. **Video – “Marked Forever”**

2. **The Nature of Baptism**

- A. A simple act where water is connected with the Word
- B. Initiated, “instituted” by God

3. **Why we baptize**

A. Response to Jesus command – Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

B. Children are born sinful and therefore separated from God – Psalm 51:5

<sup>5</sup> Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

C. To be united with Christ – Romans 6:3-5

<sup>3</sup>Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

<sup>4</sup>We were therefore 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. <sup>5</sup>If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.

D. For salvation, for when one is connected to Jesus, one is saved – 1 Peter 3:21 & Acts 2:38-39

<sup>21</sup>This water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

<sup>38</sup>Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

E. To be reborn into God's family – John 3:3-5

<sup>3</sup>Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

<sup>4</sup>"How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit."