



Sermon Discussion Guide for Groups

“Baptism Service”

Preached by Daniel Grothe

October 26th, 2025

Summary

Have someone in your group read the following summary aloud.

This sermon focuses on the significance of baptism and what happens spiritually when believers are baptized. Pastor Grossi explains three key things that occur during baptism: believers are forever united with Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit, they receive fresh anointing and power from God, and their identity as children of God is confirmed. Using biblical references from Ephesians and Matthew, he emphasizes that baptism is not just a symbolic act but a moment when heaven opens, the Holy Spirit descends, and God declares over each person 'This is my son/daughter

whom I love.' The sermon was delivered on baptism Sunday where over 200 people were baptized across multiple services.ve in Christ's resurrection.

Key Passages

- Ephesians 1:13
- Matthew 3:16-17

Opening Prayer

Open your session in prayer, using the words below or your own

Heavenly Father, we come before You today with open hearts and minds, ready to receive what You have for us in this time together. Just as You stirred the waters at the pool of Bethesda, we ask that You would stir our hearts today. Help us to be receptive to Your voice and Your truth. May Your Holy Spirit guide our discussion and reveal new insights about our identity in Christ and the power of baptism in our lives. We surrender our preconceived notions and ask that You would speak to us in fresh ways. In Jesus' name, **amen**.

Getting Going

Allow time for each member to answer the following questions before moving on.

What's one of your favorite memories involving water - whether it's a beach vacation, swimming pool, lake, or even just playing in the rain as a kid?

Discussion Questions

Answer as many of the following questions as time and interest permit.

1. The pastor mentioned that in baptism we are 'sealed' with the Holy Spirit like a king's signet ring. What does it mean to you personally that God has marked you as His own?
2. Jesus was baptized even though He was perfect and sinless. Why do you think His baptism was important, and how does it relate to our own baptism experience?
3. The pastor shared a story about someone wanting to stay under the water longer because they had 'a lot of stuff' for Jesus to wash away. What would you want Jesus to wash away from your life?
4. The congregation was encouraged to 'stir their faith' and participate in the baptisms, not just watch. How can we better support and celebrate when others make decisions to follow Jesus?

Making It Personal

Take the opportunity noted below to apply this week's sermon to your everyday life

This week, spend time each morning reminding yourself of your identity as God's beloved child. When you face challenges, temptations, or negative thoughts, declare out loud: 'I am sealed by God, I have fresh anointing from the Holy Spirit, and I am God's son/daughter whom He loves.' If you haven't been baptized, prayerfully consider taking that step. If you have been baptized, ask God to renew and refresh that commitment in your heart.

Key Takeaways

Commit to memory one point from the message before you dismiss.

- Baptism is the moment when we are forever united with Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit - God marks us as His own with divine ownership
- Baptism brings fresh anointing and power from the Holy Spirit, giving us strength for the battles and temptations we will face
- In baptism, our identity as children of God is sealed forever - we hear God's voice saying 'This is my son/daughter whom I love'

- Jesus was baptized not for Himself but for us, so that we could be caught up into the same union with the Father that He has
- For those already baptized, we must not let those baptismal waters become dormant, but continually press back into that fresh work of God

Closing Prayer

Have someone from your group close you time in prayer, using the words below or your own.

Lord Jesus, thank You for the incredible gift of baptism and what it represents in our lives. Thank You that through Jesus, we are sealed as Your children, anointed with fresh power, and given a secure identity in You. Help us to live each day remembering who we are in Christ - not defined by our failures or the enemy's lies, but by Your love and pleasure over us. For those in our group who haven't taken the step of baptism, give them courage and clarity about this important decision. For those who have been baptized, renew that commitment in their hearts and help them walk in the fullness of what You've done. May we go from this place with fresh faith, fresh power, and fresh joy in following You. **Amen.**