

Sermon: Baptized Into Christ.
Series: Luke: The Gospel for Everyone.

Scripture: Luke 3:15-38.
Date: February 25, 2024

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) Look at Jesus' genealogy in Luke 3. How does it help us to identify who he is? How has your genealogy/ancestry identified who you are?
- b) Read Luke 3:16. How does baptism identify who we are? Have you been baptized by the Spirit? In the water?
- c) At Christ's baptism, God declared his love and pleasure for his Son. Do you have a hard time embracing that God loves you and is pleased with you? Why or why not?

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) Where do we see the judgment of God in this passage? How is it described? Can you identify any ways that God is "clearing the threshing floor" of your life these days – burning off the chaff of earthly or temporal things that you have been trusting in?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) How would you answer this question: "Why did Jesus have to be baptized?" Was it for the forgiveness of his sins? Look at Matthew 3:13-15 to help you. Think about how identity and baptism are connected. Who was Jesus identifying with in his baptism?
- b) Read Romans 6:3-4. Our faith in Christ baptizes us into the death of Christ by the Holy Spirit. What does it mean that we share in the death of Christ? What are the implications of this great truth in regards to your sin? Keep reading Romans 6 to help you!

APPLICATION

- a) In salvation we have been baptized with the Holy Spirit. Read some of these passages to see the many blessings of Spirit baptism: Titus 3:5-6; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; Rom. 5:5; 2 Cor. 3:17-18; Gal. 4:6-7; Gal. 5:22-26.
- b) Read Luke 3:22. The indwelling Spirit should make us humble and dove-like. Can you identify areas or relationships where you need to embrace the humility and gentleness of Christ? How does remembering that God loves us and is pleased with us help us to embrace these mindsets?

PRAYER

- Acknowledge God's unconditional love for you and his pleasure over you.
- Confess ways that you have trusted in things that are "chaff" rather than in God himself.
- Thank Jesus for being your brother who has shared the results of his death with you.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to make you more humble and dove-like.