**Buried with Christ, Raised to New Life**

**Key Text:** Romans 6:4  
**Theme:** God’s love, Christ’s sacrifice, and baptism are inseparably linked in the gospel.

**Introduction**

* Baptism is more than water — it’s the picture of God’s love and Christ’s sacrifice.
* John 3:16 brings it all together: God loved, Christ gave, we respond.

**1. GOD’S LOVE IS THE REASON FOR SALVATION**

* **1 John 4:8–10** – God is love; He proved it by sending His Son.
* **Romans 5:8** – Loved us at our worst.
* **John 15:13** – Greatest love: to lay down life.

**Application:** Rest in God’s love — nothing can separate us from it (Romans 8:38–39).  
**Key Thought:** The cross proves God’s love is personal, unconditional, eternal.

**2. CHRIST’S SACRIFICE MAKES SALVATION POSSIBLE**

* **1 Peter 3:18** – Christ died once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous.
* **Isaiah 53:5** – Pierced for our transgressions, by His wounds we are healed.
* The cross wasn’t an accident — it was God’s plan of love and justice.
* **John 19:30** – “It is finished.”

**Application:** Live with gratitude. He gave all for us — what will we hold back from Him?  
**Key Thought:** The cross cost Jesus everything; it should cost us our whole life in return.

**3. BAPTISM DECLARES WHAT GOD HAS DONE**

* **Acts 2:38, 41** – Repent and be baptized.
* **Matthew 28:19–20** – Command to baptize disciples.
* **Romans 6:4** – Buried with Christ, raised to walk in new life.
  + Going under = death and burial with Christ.
  + Coming up = resurrection and new life.
* Baptism doesn’t save, but it proclaims salvation.

**Application:**

* If baptized: live in the “newness of life” your baptism declared.
* If not baptized: take this step of obedience and testimony.  
  **Key Thought:** Baptism is the believer’s public “yes” to Jesus.

**4. LIVING IN NEWNESS OF LIFE**

* Baptism isn’t the end; it’s the beginning.
* Daily walk: dead to sin, alive in Christ (Romans 6:11).
* Live as proof of resurrection power.

**Conclusion & Invitation**

* God’s love pursued you.
* Christ’s sacrifice purchased you.
* Baptism proclaims you belong to Him.
* **Invitation:** Have you responded? Have you been baptized?
* Acts 22:16 – *“Why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized…”*