October 11 – "Dead, Buried, Raised"— Baptism Sunday #5– Lead Pastor Marc Riegel

Sermon Discussion Guide



A Transformed Heart - Colossians 2:6–15

Icebreaker:
What is something you own that has meaning because of what it represents—not simply because of the object itself?

Digging Deeper

1. **Read Colossians 2:6–15. What stands out to you about the connection Paul makes between baptism, our identity in Christ, and the way we live?**
   Why do you think it is easy to separate our baptism from our everyday lives?

2. **The sermon emphasized that baptism is an outward sign of an inward reality.**
   How is baptism similar to a wedding ring? What can happen when we focus on the outward sign but neglect what it represents?

3. **Colossians 2:11–13 describes God doing the work of putting off our old identity and making us alive with Christ.**
   How does this change the way we think about spiritual transformation? What is the difference between **"trying harder to become different"** and **allowing God to transform us?**

4. **The sermon described four ways a transformed heart becomes visible:**

- **Live UP** — My heart is oriented toward Christ.
- **Live DIFFERENT** — My old life doesn't control me anymore.
- **Live WITH** — My new heart changes how I treat people.
- **Live OUT** — My life becomes a witness to Jesus.

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Which of these four is most evident in your life right now? Which one needs the most attention?

Personal Reflection

Take a moment to prayerfully consider the question from the sermon:

What are you still protecting from God?

Is there a habit, relationship, wound, sin, attitude, comfort, or calling that you have been unwilling to surrender?

What would it look like to open that part of your life to God this week?

Takeaway

Baptism isn't the finish line; it points us toward a life continually being transformed by Christ. God doesn't simply want people who carry the sign of the covenant—He wants people who carry the covenant **in their hearts**.

Pray each day:

"Jesus, continue Your work in me. Show me what I am still holding onto. Give me the courage to surrender it to You. Cut away whatever doesn't belong. Give me a transformed heart, and help me live as someone who belongs completely to You."