



Baptism Weekend: Characteristics of God – Pastor Mark Pope  
October 17, 2021

1. What comes to your mind when you think of baptism services? Share your thoughts on why baptism is such an important step in our journey.
2. Jesus interacted with people from all walks of life. Discuss what motivated Jesus to spend time with lepers, crooked businessmen, adulterous women, etc. Why is it common for us to avoid such people? Why is it important to connect with people outside of our comfort zone?
3. Read Luke 15:1-7 Discuss what the shepherd did when he realized one of his sheep was missing. What kind of actions did he take and what was the outcome?
4. Read Luke 15:4 Pastor Mark shared that God is a God who notices when someone is missing. Describe a time in your life when you felt separated, unnoticed, or lost. How did God reveal Himself to you through that situation? How did that experience change your relationship with Him?
5. Read Matthew 10:29 Pastor Mark taught us God is a God who pursues. Discuss what it feels like when you lose something valuable. What kind of time and effort went into finding it? How does it impact you to know that God pursues you with that same intensity?
6. Pastor Mark taught us that God is a God who protects. Discuss why we need God's protection. Why can't we protect ourselves? What are some protective measures you have experienced that show God is watching over you?
7. Read Luke 15:6-7 Pastor Mark shared God is a God who celebrates. What motivates God to celebrate? How does it feel to know that all of Heaven celebrates when one person repents?
8. Prayerfully consider your life at this moment – do you feel lost, pursued, protected, or celebrated? Ask God what He is calling you to experience. What step do you need to take this week to step into His presence?