

AUGUST 24, 2025

Dive In

Go around and let everyone answer...

What was your baptism like?

Dig Deep

Scripture references: Acts 2, Luke 13:1-5, 1 Peter 3:20-21, Romans 6:1-6

Acts 2:38

- Brief summary: the Holy Spirit fills the believers on the day of Pentecost, Peter addresses the crowd that assembles, Peter blames them for Jesus' crucifixion (vs. 23) yet his words convict them of their sins and they ask what they need to do in repentance (vs. 38)
- Repentance literally means to purposefully change direction. How have you practiced repentance in your life? Repentance can't be passive; it requires action.

Luke 13:1-5

- In these 5 verses, Jesus addresses some current events and discusses repentance.
- Vs. 2 shows that humankind has always struggled with the idea that worse sins = worse punishments.
- Instead of fueling this discussion, Jesus directs his audience, and us as the readers of Scripture, to focus on seeking repentance for our own sins instead of debating what may or may not happen to others.
- It can be very easy to think to ourselves "well at least I'm not doing like that person is."
- We all need repentance, no matter how bad our sins are. So how can we avoid comparing our sins to others' sins?

1 Peter 3:21

- Noah's deliverance through the flood foreshadows our salvation through baptism. The threads of baptism's importance are woven throughout Scripture.
- How do we see those threads carrying onward into our modern lives? What metaphors can we use when we are discussing Baptism? What enduring imagery continues to speak to you as a believer and how can you share that with others? How can we creatively present the necessity of Baptism in our modern world?

Romans 6:1-6

- Just because we receive grace doesn't give us license to freely sin.
- As we reflect on the *Wonder of One* study series, how can use what we have learned about God and his Scriptures to encourage the people to whom we minister to take the final step of repentance and Baptism?

Do Big

• Let us commit to praying for each other as we all strive to practice repentance. Pray also for the people you know who have yet to commit to Christ in Baptism.

