

BE A BLESSING: Grow!

Scripture used: [Romans 6:3–5 \(NIV\)](#)

OVERVIEW

This week, Pastor Hurmon delivered a powerful message on baptism, one of the two sacred sacraments, alongside communion, through which God personally and actively meets us. Sacraments are sacred not just to us but also to God, and they mark moments where heaven touches earth. Baptism is an invitation into transformation, a public declaration of faith, and a reminder of God's unending pursuit of us. Pastor Hurmon shared the joy of baptizing 22 people the previous evening—men and women, rich and poor, Black and white—all united by one faith and one Savior. One participant even brought water from the Jordan River in Israel, symbolizing the deep continuity between the ancient faith and our present transformation. Baptism reveals the distinctive nature of Christianity: we follow a God who searches for us, who sacrifices for us before asking anything from us, and who stoops down to meet us where we are. To be baptized is to respond to this divine love—to say yes to the One who has already said yes to us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

KEY POINTS

1. Baptism is a sacred encounter.

Baptism is not merely symbolic; it is an event where God is present and active. The water represents the cleansing and rebirth that only Jesus can bring. As we are immersed, our old selves—full of guilt, shame, and striving—begin to die. As we rise, we are washed clean and made new. This process doesn't just happen once; in Christ, we are *born again and again and again*, continually renewed by His grace. That's why we have to celebrate each new baptism; it reminds us of our own, and God's unconditional love.

2. Christianity reveals a pursuing, sacrificial, and compassionate God.

Unlike any other faith, Christianity centers on a God who comes *searching for us*. He doesn't wait for us to measure up—He meets us where we are. He *sacrifices first*, before asking anything in return. He *measures down* to our pain and brokenness so that He can lift us up. That is famous scripture “For God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son.” Through Jesus, God reveals His heart: a love that weeps, suffers, and saves.

3. God's love heals our deepest wounds.

Pastor Hurmon drew on insights from attachment theory to show that our souls long for secure love. When love is lost, withheld, or distorted, we carry wounds that shape how we live. But Jesus becomes our secure attachment—the one love that will never leave us. In Him, we find eternal belonging. We no longer need to chase validation; we rest in divine acceptance. If we embrace this amazing truth, we begin to truly feel God's love.

4. Baptism begins a lifelong transformation.

To be baptized is to enter sanctification—the ongoing process of becoming like Christ. As we “collapse into grace,” God reshapes how we think, feel, and live. We are transformed from the inside out—no longer isolated, but united as members of Christ's body. This is all about community, the people around us. In the church, we learn to love across differences, to forgive, and to be forgiven. Sanctification is about progress, not perfection.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - What does it mean to you that God searches for you, sacrifices for you, and measures down to meet you where you are? How does this reshape your understanding of His love?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - Read [1 Corinthians 5:17](#). If baptism marks the beginning of new life in Christ, what are some ways we can practically live out this “new creation” identity even when old habits or mindsets try to pull us back?
- 3) **DO** - This week, take time to remember your baptism—or make the decision to be baptized. Pray, “Lord Jesus, help me to collapse into Your grace. Let Your love wash over my wounds and make me new again.”