

MAY 21 & 22 WFFK 3 **BAPTISM**

Message Notes
Danny Anderson

Jesus came into the world to **change** our lives.

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

But the people were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner." Luke 19:7

"I will give **half** my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!" Luke 19:8

"For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost." Luke 19:10

"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will **never be hungry** again. Whoever believes in me will **never be thirsty**." John 6:35

Your soul's thirst will be satisfied

"Why do you eat and drink with such scum?" Luke 5:30

"Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who **think** they are righteous, but those who **know** they are sinners and need to repent." Luke 5:31-32

"And when she finds it, she will call in her friends and neighbors and say, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels when even one sinner repents." Luke 15:9-10

"But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began." Luke 15:22-24

People being found is worthy of a celebration because people <u>matter</u> to God.

Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your **new nature**, created to be like God truly righteous and holy. Ephesians 4:21-24

"Spiritual formation is not a passive process." Dallas Willard

WFFKIY BIBLE READING ONF YEAR NEW SUNDAY TUESDAY MONDAY TESTAMENT John 12:20-50 John 13:1-30 John 13:31-14:14 this week may 22 may 23 may 24 WEDNESDAY THURSDAY SATURDAY FRIDAY John 14:15-31 John 15:1-27 John 16:1-33 John 17:1-26 may 25 may 26 mav 27 mav 28 WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE John 10:10

Small Group Questions Continued

4. As we take on more of the character of Christ, we will be able to respond to the circumstances of life in ways that are good and right, the same way Jesus would. However, our level of change is determined by our level of surrender.

How will you honor your commitment to throw off the old nature and put on the new nature this coming week? What steps will you put in place to help create life change?

Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.		
My action steps are		
I'm accountable for	, and their action steps are	
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My memory verse is	<u> </u>	
This coming week, I'm praying for:		

Outreach: Groups in Action

OUR CHURCH

Summer volunteers are needed in the Children's Ministry. This short-term commitment will impact the lives of families who attend our weekend worship services. Learn more by contacting Courtney Salyers at csalyers@eclife.org.

OUR COMMUNITY

The Refuge needs shampoo for their clients. Consider collecting through your family, friends and coworkers, and bringing them to group with you next week (take a picture and post it to the Small Groups Facebook page). One group member can deliver it to The Refuge (317-889-7338).

OUR WORLD

The Colombia mission team is collecting quality garage sale items to raise money for the upcoming trip. Consider donating any clothing, household items, yard or household tools, toys, and furniture to help this cause. Drop off your items June 6-8. Contact Kerry Jones for the address and any questions at kjones@eclife.org.



CILIBRATE



For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

Check-in

LAST WEEK'S ACTION STEP

From the information we discussed the last time we met, what did you apply to your life in a practical way?

Introduction

Jesus came into this world to change our lives. He came so that we might taste real life – life the way He meant it to be. When a person comes to faith in Christ, their sins are forgiven. However, it takes work, effort, skill, and discipline to realize the new life Jesus desires. As Dallas Willard said, "Spiritual formation is not a passive process." Baptism is a picture of the commitment to this process. Going under the water represents our willingness to put our old sinful nature to death, and coming out of the water represents our rebirth – that is, our commitment to a new way of life. That's a reason to celebrate!

Discussion Questions

1. Read Luke 15:11-32. The prodigal son looked for satisfaction and happiness in what the world had to offer. When have you done the same? Where did you look?

Jesus recognized that people have a deep desire for satisfaction and happiness. Read John 6:35. What point was Jesus trying to make in this passage?

- 2. Read Ephesians 4:21-22. Baptism is a symbol of our commitment to throw off our old sinful nature and former way of life in order to find our satisfaction in Him. What are some specific things you have thrown off as a result of your new life in Christ? How is life different when the old nature and former ways are destroyed?
- 3. Read Ephesians 4:23-24. Baptism doesn't "kill the old nature" and "put on the new nature" for you. It is a symbol that you are willing to step into the spiritual growth process, and begin the necessary training to take on the character of Christ. Share the spiritual disciplines you are using to train your new nature. Why are these things important to you, and how have they helped you develop the character of Christ?