

Matthew 3:13-17
The Way of Jesus
Message – Identity
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Fifth Reformed Church
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Baptism as the Starting Point

- He traveled over _____ to be baptized by his older cousin, John the Baptist.
-Matthew 3:1-3
- The _____ of Jesus, the beloved Son of God, was absolutely known by John, which shows why he felt unworthy to baptize him.
- Baptism wasn't a _____ at that point in time.
- This practice of immersion was known as _____.
- Mikveh couldn't cleanse a person's _____.

Baptism as a Sign of the New Covenant

- Then Jesus came along to deepen the significance of baptism, the place the _____ into baptism.

Jeremiah 31:33-34, foreshadowing the New Covenant

- Baptism as a response to faith in Jesus is an _____ into this New Covenant.
- We have a blueprint on how to live, and it starts with knowing _____ at our core.

Identity through Baptism

v. 16-17

- Of course, these words are for Jesus, but are these words really for us? _____.

- The Father is pleased with us before we do anything _____ or anything to _____ his name.
- It's now the blood of the lamb that _____ the New Covenant
- After Jesus was baptized and his identity was declared over him, he went straight into the desert to be tempted by _____ himself.
- All of these parts of our lives matter, but they can't be _____ our identity as beloved children of God.

How will you respond to God's word today?

Reflection Questions

1. Why did Jesus go get baptized before preaching or healing?
2. What is powerful about your baptism or witnessing another baptism?
3. Jesus' life in ministry is a blueprint on how to live, yet he started with identity. Why?
4. When have other parts of your life overshadowed your identity in Christ?
5. Who in your life loves you like God does? How does that impact your walk with Jesus?
6. How is God getting your attention?
7. What is God saying to you?
8. What are you going to do about it?