



BAPTIZED

BURIED

JESSE TINK, PASTOR OF
CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

This week, Pastor Jesse's message from Romans entitled "Buried with Jesus" shared why baptism is important in our faith life. Before we step over the Faith Line, we are helpless under the power of sin. We cannot escape or fix ourselves; we are separated from God. After we step over the Faith Line, and go down under the baptismal waters, we are buried with Jesus in baptism. We are now able to serve a different Master; sin no longer masters us.

DISCUSSION

1. Pastor Jesse explained three steps to crossing the Faith Line: My sin separates me from God; Jesus died for me; God is now my Friend. Share with your group your process for crossing the Faith Line. If you have not made that step yet, share with the group which of the three steps you are struggling with and pray for clarity and faith to overcome that struggle.
2. Read Romans 6:1-4. Pastor Jesse called this going from "sin killing us to Jesus killing our sin." What does it mean to you to be "buried with Jesus"? Explain how this attitude toward sin affects the life of a follower of Christ.
3. Share your baptismal story with your group. If you have not been baptized, what steps do you need to take in your faith walk?

THINK ABOUT IT

"You don't need a telescope, a microscope, or a horoscope to realize the fullness of Christ, and the emptiness of the universe without him. When you come to him, that fullness comes together for you, too. His power extends over everything. Entering into this fullness is not something you figure out or achieve. It's not a matter of being circumcised or keeping a long list of laws. No, you're already in—insiders—not through some secretive initiation rite but rather through what Christ has already gone through for you, destroying the power of sin. If it's an initiation ritual you're after, you've already been through it by submitting to baptism. Going under the water was a burial of your old life; coming up out of it was a resurrection, God raising you from the dead as he did Christ." *Colossians 2:10-13, The Message*

DO SOMETHING

1. Pray for the baptismal services next weekend. Attend one of the services and show your support for the people in your congregation making this next step of faith!
2. Set aside some time this week to pray about your next steps in your faith walk. Is it stepping over the Faith Line? Believers' baptism? Small group? Mentoring? Talk to someone in your group or at your campus to take a next step.
3. Read through the verses from the sermon in Romans again. Meditate and journal on what it means to you to be "buried with Jesus."