**God’s Big Story**

**1. God is Perfect.**

Matthew 5:48: “Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

**2. God Loves Me.**

John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

1 John 4:10: “This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.”



**3. Sin is the Problem.**

Romans 3:23: “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

Romans 6:23: “For the wages of sin is death …”

**4. God Wants To Give Me A Gift**

Romans 6:23: “…but the gift of God is eternal life inChrist Jesus our Lord.”

**5. Jesus Paid For My Sin**

Romans 5:6: **“**You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.”

Romans 6:9-10: “For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. **10**The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.”

**6. The A B C**

**ADMIT** our SIN

1 John 1:9: “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

**BELIEVE** in JESUS

Romans 10:10: “For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God …”

**CONFESS** him as LORD

Romans 10:10: “and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.”

**How do we do the ABCs?**

It is simple, be baptized. While we do not earn our salvation through good works, God still calls us to respond to His Son. Baptism is our response to Jesus and entering into a personal relationship with him. When we are baptized we admit our sin, believe in Jesus, and confess him as Lord.

**What is baptism?**

Simply put, the word baptize means to “Submerge, dip or immerse.” Baptism is one of the most awesome privilege of becoming and being a Christian! The act itself involves being lowered completely under water for a brief moment and then being lifted up from the water. Why? What’s the point? Let’s find out.

**Why be baptized?**

1. To act like Jesus

 Matthew 3:13-17: Jesus was baptized to “fulfill all righteousness.”

2. To obey Jesus

Matthew 28:18-20: “Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

**What does the baptism show?**

1. It shows that you belong to Jesus (Galatians 3:27)

2. It shows that your sins are forgiven (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

3. It shows that you shared in his death and resurrection, illustrated through baptism by going under the water (dead to your old life), then rising again (new life). (Romans 3:3-11)

4. It shows that we have commit ourselves to living for God (1 Peter 3:21)

5. It shows that we have invited God into our lives (Acts 2:38)

**How do I know I am ready?**

1. If you believe in the message.

Mark 16:16 — “He who **BELIEVES** and is baptized will be saved.”

1. What is the message we are to believe?

John 14:6: **“**Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

1 Corinthians 15:2-4: “2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. 3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”

1. Acts 2:41 — “Those who **BELIEVED** his message were baptized …”