



H2Oh!

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Law/Gospel

In my sin, I often close my heart and mind to the saving Word of the Gospel that is preached to me. **In mercy, God still sees to it that His Holy Word is proclaimed so that, through it, the Holy Spirit might grant faith and open my heart to receive the forgiveness Christ has won for me.**

Bible Words

Be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.
Acts 2:38

The Big Picture

Paul and Silas sailed to Neapolis, a seaport where travelers often landed to connect to the Via Egnatia, the 696-mile military road built from the Adriatic to the Aegean Sea in the second-century BC. From Neapolis, Paul and Silas traveled ten miles inland to Philippi, considered the gate between Europe and Asia. Here, the Gospel was first preached in Europe.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for claiming us in Baptism and making us Your children. Amen.

Meeting at the H2Oh! Lydia Is Baptized

Acts 16:11–15

Paul and Silas traveled to Philippi, a prominent Roman city filled with many retired soldiers, during their second missionary tour.

Paul usually went to the local synagogue first to tell the Jews that their Messiah had arrived, but Philippi did not have a synagogue. (The Law only required one if more than ten Jews lived there.) So the disciples went to the riverside on the Sabbath, looking for a place to pray.

The missionaries met and began talking with some women, including Lydia from Thyatira, a worshiper of God who sold purple goods. “The Lord opened her heart” to hear the message about God’s love and forgiveness in Christ Jesus (Acts 16:14). Lydia and her whole household were baptized. She insisted the disciples stay at her home, saving Paul and his friends from paying their own expenses.

The Holy Spirit gave Lydia faith in Jesus through His Word and Baptism, the same ways He delivers faith and spiritual blessings to us.

From Luther’s Small Catechism: Baptism

First: What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God’s command and combined with God’s word.

Which is that word of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matt. 28:19)

Second: What benefits does Baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mark 16:16)

Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation © 1986 CPH.

cph.org/SundaySchool

Permission to copy for use with H2Oh! curriculum. Scripture: ESV®.
Copyright © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.

