

## Baptism prepares us for the coming of Christ December 3, 2017

(1 Peter 3:18-22)

<sup>18</sup> For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison <sup>20</sup> who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, <sup>21</sup> and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

1. What is your favorite part of preparing for Christmas? Why?

2. What is your least favorite part of preparing for Christmas? Why?

3. Advent means "coming" and is a season in which we prepare to meet the coming Savior. What are the three different types of advent we prepare for during this season?

4. Which of Jesus' comings do you feel least prepared for? Why?

5. After Jesus rose from death he went and proclaimed his victory to those in hell. Why does this bring us comfort?

6. How did God use the waters of the flood to save and destroy? How does God use the waters of baptism in a similar way?

7. Why is it important to know that baptism is not our pledge to God, but his pledge to us of a good conscience?

8. How can you remember your baptism daily?