



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

What Does Your Baptism Mean to You Today? January 6-8, 2024

Romans 6:1-11

¹What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ²By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, ⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

1. What (if any) New Year's resolutions did you make?

2. "It's easier to make resolutions than to keep them." Why?

3. Our sinful nature wants to find reasons to keep sinning. What argument does it make in v. 1? (which Paul goes on to counter in vv. 2-11)? (cf. also Romans 5:20-21)

4. In what way did your baptism connect you to Christ?

5. According to v. 4, if you died with Christ (in your baptism), what else is true?

6. In vv. 6-, Paul says that through baptism, you Old Self was crucified with Christ. What impact can/should that have on your everyday life?

7. Agree/disagree: Sin has no control over you as a Christian.

8. Luther's Catechism says, "Baptism means that the old Adam in us should be drowned by daily contrition and repentance, and all its evil deeds and desires be put to death." In your own words, how do you "drown" your old Adam?

9. What is the significance of the statement: BAPTIZATUS SUM ("I am baptized.")?

10. What parallels do you see between Holy Baptism and Holy Communion?