

5 Things We Love



Things
we
LOVE

baptism giving prayer communion teaching

Week One: We Love Baptism

As a church, we're going to spend some time over the next few weeks discussing some things that absolutely love. As Ron mentioned this Sunday, these five (baptism, giving, prayer, communion, and teaching) aren't the only things we love. But they are five elements that we typically see in our weekend worship services. Have you ever wondered: "Why do we/they do *that*?" Our prayer is that those questions can be answered throughout this series, and that you'll come to love these five things, too!

This week, we discussed baptism. At West Towne, we love baptism. We believe that baptism is a monumental decision and step that one makes when it comes to following Jesus. It signifies our old life being buried with Christ, our new life when we're raised as he was, and our immersion in him and his Spirit. It is a beautiful moment in our journeys with Jesus, just as we saw this Sunday as two of our friends came forward to be baptized. What a thing to celebrate!

Spend some time in your Circles praying for those who made the decision to be baptized this past weekend, and for others who may be praying over this decision, as well.

Reading and Discussion

1. As you begin this session, simply spend some time checking in with one another. Ask your group members how they're doing at the moment, and ask where they see God moving in their lives right now.
2. Read **Matthew 28:19**, and **Acts 2:36-41**. What comes to you as you read these passages of scripture? What do they say about baptism to you?
3. If you have made the decision to be baptized, share your baptism stories with one another. How did you feel God leading you to make that decision?
4. Martin Luther often told his congregants: "Remember your baptism." By this, he meant for them to remember the fact that God had made them new in Christ, and to live according that newness. What are some concrete ways that you can "remember" your own baptism as you walk through the week to come?