

# Sermon Discussion Questions

Baptism Is Spiritual Warfare – Matt Slocum

9 July 2023

Sermon Text: 1 Peter 3:18-22

## AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

## PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for specific needs of group members.

## MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

This week Pastor Matt explores the three primary things that happen during baptism in this week's message, Baptism Is Spiritual Warfare. There are many thoughts around why we get baptized and how we describe what baptism is. (Note – none of it has anything to do with washing away our sins).

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week you were asked to allow yourself to experience an OMG! moment. You were asked to allow yourself to be humbled and afraid. You were also asked to not let yourself be ashamed to share the majesty and glory of God to those you met. How did that go? Did you have an OMG! moment you'd like to share?
2. Is there anything that stood out to you from the message this week?
3. **Baptism brings us into God's family.** Matt also said that baptism what the new circumcision. What does this mean to you? For the Israelites, what did circumcision mean? Why were they circumcised? How does circumcision compare to baptism?
4. **Baptism unifies us in Christ.** What does it mean that baptism unifies us in Christ? What does it mean that "whatever is true of Jesus is the same for me"?
5. **Baptism is Spiritual Warfare.** What are some ways in which baptism is spiritual warfare? (Think back to some of the points in the message).

## Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. Did you ever go to a summer camp when you were young? What was the most memorable thing about that camp?
2. What is your favorite yard chore? What is your least favorite?
3. What was your favorite childhood story or fairytale?

## **APPLICATION**

As you reflect on this week's message, now is a good time to understand the real meaning of what it means to be baptized. It is not just a sign. Baptism is an action waged against the powers of darkness. Have you been baptized? If not, maybe this is something you'd like to do. To sign up for baptisms happening on 23 July, go to the NWC website (<https://nwckc.com/baptism>) and sign up.

## **COMING UP**

To join a small group or find out more about what is going on at NWC, go to <https://nwckc.com> or the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page. Study materials are also available on the website or Facebook page.

**New Wine Kids Camp** at PowerPlay, 12-14 July, 10 am to 2 pm. Ages 4 through 5th grade. Cost is \$75. See website for more details and to register.

**Baptisms**, 23 July, 9 and 11 am, Oak Park HS. See website for more details and to register.

## **FINAL THOUGHT**

**Baptism is an action that tears down strongholds in the kingdom of darkness.**