

Sermon Notes:



New Life Christian Community

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Cor 5:17

Sunday, August 16, 2015

Vol. 8, Issue 45

Baptismal Celebration Songs

Song 1

Jesus Firm Foundation

Verse 1

How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word
What more can He say than to you He has said
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled

Fear not He is with us O be not dismayed
For He is our God our Sustainer and Strength
He'll be our Defender and cause us to stand
Upheld by His merciful almighty hand

Chorus 1

How firm our foundation
How sure our salvation
And we will not be shaken
Jesus firm foundation

Verse 2

The soul that is trusting in Jesus as Lord
Will press on enduring the darkest of storm
And though even hell should endeavor to shake
He'll never no never no never forsake
He'll never no never no never forsake

Bridge

Age to age He stands faithful to the end
All may fade away but He will remain
He will remain

CCLI Song # 6472799

Bryan Brown | Jason Ingram | Tony Wood
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Song 2

It's Who You Are

Verse 1

Treasure of greatest price
Healer giving me life
Faithful again and again
Jesus Your love never ends yeah

Verse 2

Sovereign in all that You do
Refuge my hope is in You
Mighty Your enemies fall
Jesus You reign over all

Chorus 1

It's who You are it's who You are
It's who You'll always be

Verse 3

Seeker finding the lost
Savior bearing my cross
Worthy You're the Lamb that was slain
Jesus great is Your name

Bridge

Jesus, Jesus
Yesterday today forever You're the same
Everlasting never failing
Yesterday today forever You're the same
Yesterday today forever You're the same

Ending

It's who You'll always be
It's who You'll always be

CCLI Song # 7035188 Eddie Hoagland | Jonathan Smith
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Baptismal Celebration Songs

Song 3

I Need You Now

Verse 1

On this thirsty desert ground
In a dry and barren land I bow down
I need You now

You are calling I will come
To Your river I will run I bow down
I need You now

Chorus 1

O Living Water O God my Savior
If I ever needed You I need You now
O Living Water O God my Healer
If I ever needed You I need You now

Verse 2

You're the start and You're the end
You complete what You begin I bow down
I need You now

You are calling I will come
To Your river I will run I bow down
I need You now

Bridge

Just like the desert needs the blessing of the rain
Just like the winter waiting for the sun again
I need You now

Just like a river as it reaches for the sea
Just like a song it needs the sound of melody
I need You now

CCLI Song # 7000694
Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman | Scott Ligertwood
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Song 4

Lamb Of God

Verse 1

You came from heaven's throne
Acquainted with our sorrow
To trade the debt we owe
Your suffering for our freedom

Chorus 1

The Lamb of God in my place
Your blood poured out my sin erased
It was my death You died
I am raised to life
Hallelujah the Lamb of God

Verse 2

My name upon Your heart
My shame upon Your shoulders
The power of sin undone
The cross for my salvation

Bridge

There is no greater love
There is no greater love
The Savior lifted up
There is no greater love

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This Week's Calendar:

Aug 18 New Life Softball
7:00 p.m. at Alliance
Aug 19 GriefShare Meeting
12:30-2:00 p.m. at NLCC building
Aug 20 Men's Bible Study
The Book of Acts
6:30 a.m. at NLCC building

August Memory Verse:

Colossians 1:15-16
"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him." (ESV)

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Pastoral Pondering

Into The Water

Romans 6:3-4 "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."

We have seen twice now in our Sunday morning study of the Israelites going down into the water and then coming out of the water. The first time was in Exodus when God led Moses to the Red Sea only to have the Egyptians on their heels. God provided a way to escape the slavery they were in by parting the sea and allowing the people to walk to safety. The second time was in Joshua when after 40 years of wandering the wilderness, God led the Israelites to the Jordan to cross and take the promise land. God divided the waters to allow the people to cross on dry ground. Both times God provided a way to help the people because they were not able to do it on their own.

You may ask, what does this have to do with today and the people getting baptized? Well for a lot of us we have wandered the wilderness looking for a light or we have been enslaved by the world around us. Today we get to celebrate family members realizing they cannot escape the world on their own and have come to Jesus for help.

To hear each person's testimony that led them down the road to their decision to be baptized warms the heart. In some cases to hear darkness shattered by the light of Jesus or the innocence of one's heart come to the realization that Jesus now resides there. To hear these decisions made publicly and ask the rest of us to walk with them in Christ Jesus is a great feeling. It is such a joy to watch as people are standing in the water one minute, then go under and rise out of the water. Seeing the light in their eyes and witness the fire in their hearts is a time for great joy and celebration. I am reminded all over again of the sacrifice of the cross and the ultimate joy we will have when we will rise from the grave.

Thank you to all who were baptized for sharing with us a little bit of your journey and allowing us to be part of your love for Christ Jesus.

Colossians 2:12 "Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised Him from the dead."

I come to the river with heaviness within,
with darkness in my soul of sin

I fall to my knees from the weight of it all,
for everyone to behold my great fall

As I wade into the darkness praying to Him,
what I can do seems so slim

I will fall back and let it all go,
under the water remembering what He did so long ago

Out of the water feeling so free,
knowing what happened when He was on that tree

Cleansed by the water for all to see,
let His light shine from me

God's Blessing, Paul Gilbertson