Firsts: Mankind February 4, 20024

Created for Stewardship

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man(kind) in our image, after our likeness.

- 1. God Created Mankind for (Priorities)
 - √ Sonship
- $\sqrt{}$ Kingship $\sqrt{}$ STEWARDSHIP
- Relationship

Genesis 2:8-18

- 2. Key Words
 - Garden of Eden (of ______.)
 - Work: to CULTIVATE, to
- Keep: Guard, obey, watch (serve as Watchmen).
- ____: Cultivating the "Kingdom of God"

- 3. Stewardship as Worship
 - How are you investing your ? Are you putting God first?
 - How are you actively SERVING others with your God-given
 - Are you honoring God with your through tithing and generous living?
- 4. Stewardship as a Lifestyle: the active cultivation and propagation of the Kingdom of God within your personal jurisdiction (your Garden).
 - Yourself (Are you feeding your spirit?)
 - Family (Are you praying and serving those close to you?)
 - Spiritual Family (Are you fully in your faith community?)
 - Community (Are you actively seeking the welfare of your city?)

Therefore, We are Ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us be reconciled to God. (2 Corinthians 5:20)

Why Water Baptism is a Big D.E.A.L.

DEMONSTRATION – EXPECTATION – AMPLIFICATION – LIBERATION

- 1. Water Baptism is a beautiful **DEMONSTRATION** of the Gospel of Jesus.
 - "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures..." (1 Corinthians 15:3–4 ESV)
 - "...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." (Colossians 2:12 ESV)
- 2. Water Baptism is an obvious **EXPECTATION** Jesus has for His followers.
 - "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." (Matthew 28:19 ESV)
 - "So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls." (Acts 2:41 ESV)
 - "But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." (Acts 8:12 ESV)
 - "Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized." (Acts 18:8 ESV)
 - "... why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name."
 (Acts 22:16 ESV)
- 3. Water Baptism is a radical **AMPLIFICATION** of a Christian's commitment to Jesus.
 - "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." (Galatians 3:27 ESV)
- 4. Water Baptism is a powerful sign of LIBERATION in the life of a Christian.
 - 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.

(Romans 6:3–4 ESV)

5. Sign up here



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Save these February Dates

4th Communion Sunday 11th Water Baptism Sunday 23rd - 25th Reach Out Celebration