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#### Which is that word of God?

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Matthew 28:19		

#### Which is that word of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Therefore go 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

### What benefits does Baptism give?

It works		of sins,	
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### What benefits does Baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

### Which are these words and promises of God?

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Mark, "Whoever _		and is
will	be	, but
whoever does not		_ will be
	" Mark 16:16	

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." Mark 16:16

### How can water do such great things?

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#### How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the Word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no baptism.

But with the word of God it *IS* a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new \_\_\_\_\_ in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three, "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

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whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been \_\_\_\_\_ by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." Titus 3:5-8

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### What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and \_\_\_\_\_\_ desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

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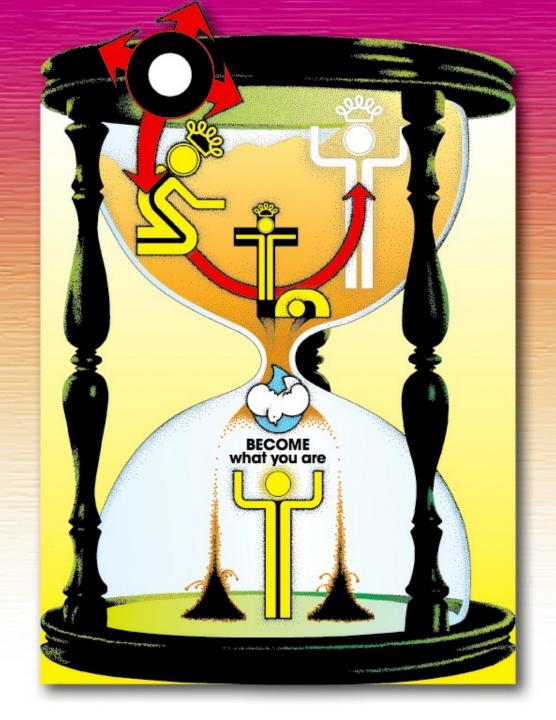
It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

#### Where is this written?

St. Paul writes in Romans	chapter six: "We were		
therefore	with Him through		
baptism into	in order that,		
just as Christ was	from the		
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#### Where is this written?

St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: "We 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." Romans 6:4



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#### The Lutheran Church uses:

- a. holy water blessed by the Pope
- b. regular tap water from the faucet
- c. only distilled, chlorine free water

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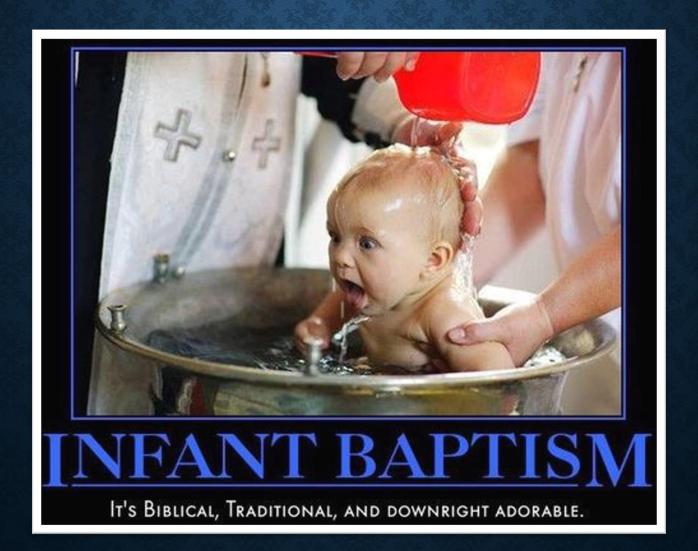
#### BREAK

- The is the end of part 1.
- Part 2 focuses on the reasons for Infant Baptism.









### THE BIG PICTURE!

Baptism = Gift of God

**Confirmation** = Where you "confirm" your baptismal faith. "Yes, this is indeed what I believe."

1. Christ's General Command includes all people, no restriction on age . . . (Matthew 28:19)

2. The general practice of the Apostles of baptizing entire families . . . (1 Corinthians 1:16; Acts 16:13-15)

3. The children's need for Holy Baptism, for they are flesh born of flesh (John 3:6) and must be born of water and the Spirit (John 3:5) before they can enter into the Kingdom of God . . . (Titus 3:5)

4. The desire of Jesus to bless little children and have them saved shows His love and compassion for people regardless of age . . . (Mark 10:13-16)

5. The fact that little children can believe . . . (Matthew 18:1-6; Luke 1:39-41)

6. The fact that the New Testament never says you *can't* or *shouldn't* baptize children. It was considered normal, just as circumcision was considered normal too. Circumcision took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of a child's life.

It was a sign of the covenant, the promises of God to His people. Baptism too is a means of grace, a sign of God's covenantal love, a seal of the Holy Spirit, and the connection with Christ in His death and resurrection ... (Titus 3:5-7; 2 Cor 1:21-22; Eph 1:12-14; Romans 6:3-5)

In the New Testament, Baptism seems to have taken the place of circumcision . . . (Genesis 17; Colossians 2:9-14)

7. The fact that children need a bath (washing). Baptism literally means "washing" and children and adults need their sins washed away . . . (Eph 5:25-26)

#### SCENARIO - DISCUSSION

Setting: you and your friends sitting at a table in your school cafeteria.

You start talking about stuff and one thing leads to another and someone speaks of how they went to their cousin's baptism over the weekend. Another friend asks, "Isn't your cousin only 2 months old? Why did you

#### SCENARIO - DISCUSSION

baptize him? You are only supposed to baptize people when they are old enough to understand what is going on."

Your other friend looks stumped and doesn't know what to say.

What could you say to help your friend understand that what he/she witnessed over the weekend was a valid baptism?

### DO BABIES HAVE SIN?

- What is the consequence of sin?
- What is the consequence of Baptism?