
1 John 3:1 How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

Baptism and its meaning.

Colossians 2:12 ...having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

Galatians 3:26 You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Titus 3:5 ...He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

Matthew 28:19 (RSV) 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, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

God's Kindness to the Unkind

Romans 2:4 Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness (chrestos), tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance?

Key: pg 1: me; protect. Disconnected. Broken. Pg 2: faulty; teachable. rescue; pg 3: rescue; wanted;

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Conversion and Baptism

Connecting with Your Church—part 1

February 16, 2020

Hidden drivers that torpedo connection.

- I'm going to feel better about _____, first.
- I'm going to _____ myself from failure, looking bad or pain.

What keeps us from being connected?

D _____ from God

Jeremiah 2:27 (RSV) ...who say to a tree, 'You are my father,' and to a stone, 'You gave me birth.' For they have turned their back to me, and not their face. But in the time of their trouble they say, 'Arise and save us!'

Isaiah 53:6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Romans 3:23 ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Broken, and willfully blind

- “Broken” is used three different ways:

a. A result: defeated.

b. A fact: f_____.

c. A virtue: t_____.

- **Willful blindness**

Matthew 7:1 (RSV) "Judge not, that you be not judged.

² For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get.

³ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?

⁴ Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye?

⁵ You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

Isaiah 6:9 "Go and tell this people: "'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.'

¹⁰ Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed."

What enables deep connection?

Salvation: God's _____ operation.

Titus 3:3 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.

Titus 3:4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared ...

Kindness “chrestos” -

Titus 3:5 He saved us not because of righteous things we had done ...

Titus 3:5 ... but because of his mercy.

Mercy “eleos” -

Titus 3:5 ... He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior...

Titus 3:7 ...so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Beloved and _____!

*Ephesians 1:5 He predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his **pleasure** and will...*

Ephesians 2:19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household.
