

# God's Story Your Story



May 17, 2015

*Faith 5 – A pattern for shaping a life of faith*

## Share:

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

**Read:** Reflect on the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.* Romans 6:4-5

## Talk:

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Does baptism make a difference? Why or why not? Is it transformational or merely symbolic? Explain.
- What does it mean to you that you are dead to sin? How does living as a child of God affect the way you behave in the world?

## Pray:

God of abundant blessing, we have been baptized with you into death, and therefore have been baptized with you into life. Receive our thanks for giving us new life, for the glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## Bless:

O God, the only Lord of all, grant us faith to trust in your word of salvation. Help us live in hope of resurrection every day. Amen.

## Some Background

Paul wrote to the question of sin. If we are saved from sin and death, does that mean we are free to sin because ultimately we will be forgiven? Paul didn't believe so. Paul suggested that we cannot continue in sin and live in Christ simultaneously. When we are baptized, we become dead to sin. That is not to say we do not commit acts of sin, but that we can no longer sustain life in the perpetual state of sin. We are children of God, and are compelled to walk in Christ's light. Among the baptismal promises is the promise that we will live with God in God's heavenly kingdom forever.

## Follow the book of Romans, as Paul explains humanity's relationship with God's righteousness.

Sunday, Romans 6:1-14, *Hope of Resurrection*

Monday, Romans 9:19-29, *God's Wrath and Mercy*

Tuesday, Romans 9:30-33, *Israel's Unbelief*

Wednesday, Romans 10:1-21, *Salvation for All*

Thursday, Romans 12:1-8, *The New Life in Christ*

Friday, Romans 12:9-21, *Marks of the True Christian*

Saturday, Romans 13:1-14, *Love for One Another*