153 Mount Edward Road
Charlottetown, PE C1A 5T1
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Churchy Words 1: Baptism

Sunday, September 20, 2026

KEY PASSAGES

Matthew 28:16-20 (NIV)

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

FIVE KEY POINTS

1. **A new series starts with the two sacraments.** Churchy Words runs into next year, taking words the church says every week and setting them beside what they mean in our culture and in scripture. Baptism this Sunday because there was a baptism, communion next Sunday.
2. **The Greek word behind baptism simply meant to dip.** It carried no church meaning when it arrived in the New Testament. You take something, put it under the water, and lift it out again. Read the passages with that plain picture and they open up.
3. **Israel's whole story is people passing through water.** The Red Sea under Moses, the Jordan under Joshua, Naaman washing seven times in the Jordan. Centuries of that picture sit behind the disciples when Jesus tells them to go and dip the nations.
4. **Acts 10 is where the promise visibly reaches everyone.** Peter walks into a Gentile home and says he now realizes God does not show favoritism. The Spirit falls on the room, and Peter asks who could possibly stand in the way of their being baptized.
5. **Baptism points at Christ's work rather than ours.** John's was a baptism of repentance, and Jesus came saying none of it can be earned. Baptizing in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit points at what he has done, and the promise is for believers and for their children.

STORIES & ILLUSTRATIONS

Baptism by fire. The one place the word turns up in ordinary speech, so he imagined the conversation. A friend starts a new job, and there was no orientation and no training, just straight into calls with clients. Being thrown in over your head and learning on the fly is not as far from the biblical word as it first sounds, since both are about being fully immersed in something.

And they lived happily ever after. No. He ran the Old Testament that way, stage by stage. Abraham gets a promise, Israel gets twelve tribes, the brothers end up in slavery in Egypt. Through the Red Sea, then into the wilderness asking to go back. Into the promised land, then into idolatry. Every time the phrase came back he cut it off, which is how he arrived at the point that we are not living happily ever after yet either.

Naaman in the Jordan. One quick example from the ministry of Elisha. A man with leprosy is told to go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and he thinks it is ridiculous because he knows cleaner water elsewhere. His servant girl asks why he would do something impressive if he were asked to, but not something simple. He goes, and he is healed.

Listen to the sermon again on Spotify · **Re-watch the sermon on YouTube**

902-894-4721 · info@charlottetowncrc.org · charlottetowncrc.org

Created by Levi Ewald