**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr, February 19, 2023**

**A Baptism Like No Other**

Matthew 3:13-17

**Key Truth:** Jesus’ baptism was distinct and declared Him to be both man and God.

**Why Was Jesus Baptized?**

1. Jesus wasn’t baptized because He needed to repent of sins.

 Hebrews 4:14-15

2. Jesus was baptized to affirm the ministry and message of

 John. Mark 11:27-33

3. Jesus was baptized to complete everything that forms part of

 a relationship of obedience to God. Matthew 3:15

**What Happened At Jesus Baptism Was Unique:**

1. He was anointed by the Holy Spirit.

 A. There was a visible manifestation of the presence of

 God on the life and ministry of Jesus.

2. He was affirmed by God the Father to be His Son and

 commissioned for ministry.

 A. There was an audible declaration from God the Father

 heard by all present at the baptism of Jesus.

 B. Declaring Jesus to be His Son was also declaring Jesus to be

 of Divine origin. John 5:18

3. Jesus’ baptism was also a fulfillment of prophecy. Psalm 2:7,

 Isaiah 11:1-2, Isaiah 42:1, Isaiah 61:1, Luke 4:16-21

4. At Jesus’ baptism we see the Godhead operating as distinct yet co-equal beings.

**What We Learn:**

In Jesus’ baptism, we hear God’s call for us to turn to Jesus and trust in Him as Savior.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Thank God for John the Baptist’s message of repentance and for Jesus’ example in baptism. Pray that we would understand Jesus’ role as a mediator, and that we would faithfully follow Him.

**Connection Group Homework:**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Eighteen years had passed since Jesus, at the age of twelve, went to the temple and listened to the religious teachers. Why do you think He chose to go to a river to announce the start of His ministry, rather than back to the temple? What did He accomplish through this action?

Why was Jesus baptized, even though He didn’t need to repent of His sins? Why is baptism an important symbol of your commitment to God?

John 10:22-33: In your own words, how would you describe the importance of Jesus being both fully God and fully man? In what ways is Jesus a bridge between God and us?

Read Romans 3:19-20: How would your relationship with God be different if He demanded that you be perfect, and repenting wasn’t an option?

What can you do this week to show God how thankful you are for His grace and mercy?

Read Romans 6:1-4: Why do you think baptism is a good picture of being dead to sin and being made alive in Christ?

Romans 6:6-11: Why should baptism come after we have received salvation? How is baptism an act of discipleship?

How would you help someone understand that baptism comes after salvation?

What are some of the excuses you have used, or have heard others use, for not getting baptized? How can you answer those excuses?