



ENTER God's presence

Psalm 116:4, 8-14

- ⁴ Then I called on the name of the LORD: "LORD, save me!"
- ⁸ For you, LORD, have delivered me from death,
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling,
⁹ that I may walk before the LORD in the land of the living.
¹⁰ I trusted in the LORD when I said, "I am greatly afflicted";
¹¹ in my alarm I said, "Everyone is a liar."
¹² What shall I return to the LORD for all his goodness to me?
¹³ I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of
the LORD.
¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

Father, this world of sin drags us down. So many lies, across all media. Rumours, gossip, conspiracy; confusion rules and too often the quiet clarity of your voice seems lost in the ceaseless noise of our modern world. Lord, save me! You have delivered me from death. Grant me the grace Lord, to live with honesty and integrity among all people. Amen.



SHARE life together

1. **Where have you seen God's power at work in your life this last week?**
2. **What do you have to be thankful for?**
3. **What are the 'deathly things' that weigh you down?**
 - a. What kills your spirit
 - b. What gives life, for example:
(Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.)

Week beginning:
Sunday 16th January 2022

Series Theme: Zero Gravity
Part 3



VERSE for the week

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove.

Luke 3:21-22a



REMEMBER this week

Baptism is God's PFD that lifts you up, holds you up and enables you to live with determined buoyancy.



LISTEN attentively

Read Luke 3:16-22

¹⁶ John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with^l the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸ And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them. ¹⁹ But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, ²⁰ Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison. ²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

4. What do you hear this scripture saying to you right now?
5. What do Luke's words say about Jesus?



GROW deeper

6. Share how you went with your living purposefully from last time?

Own today's Bible verse. Retell Luke 3:16-22 in your own words.

7. Each person shares in their own words.
8. What is God doing for you in these verses?
9. What do these verses say about what he is doing for his church?



LIVE purposefully

10. How will you respond to the Bible verses this week? What pattern of thinking and behaviour can you begin to pursue as a disciple of Jesus? How can you develop this Gospel impact in the lives of others?

Idea

- As a child of God, healed, redeemed, and called, write your own vision and mission statements. Seek God's purpose and meaning for your life.



PRAY intentionally

- Praise God for the buoyancy he brings you.
- Thank and praise God as you reflect on your baptism.
- Invite Jesus, once more, to restore you along with all of his Church according to his original plans and fill you again with his Holy Spirit and His power to do the work he has called you to do.
- Ask the Father to give you some one (or two or three) to pray for, asking the Father to draw them to him, so they too may have the peace and lightness of buoyancy. (John 6:44,45)
- Intercede for the peace of God and rest for all those who continue to put their own health and safety on the line during this pandemic – especially hospital and medical staff.
- Pray for those who have lost loved ones in any circumstance. Ask that they would receive comfort and a deep knowledge of God's grace as he sits with them, sharing in their grief.
- Check the prayer list in LifeWay News and pray accordingly.
- Pray for wisdom, knowledge and understanding for leaders in every place.
- Thank God for all the gifts he has given you to share and to minister to others with love.
- Ask God to reveal the people of peace in our community that he wants us to go out to.
- Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest.

(This has become known as the Luke 10:2 prayer)

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holds you up and enables you to live with determined buoyancy.**



BLESS one another

You might like to address one person in your group and make the sign of the cross in the air as you say...

[Name], In Christ, you will rise above everything. Amen.