

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

PALM SUNDAY MESSAGE “WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?”

STEVE CARTER

MARCH 24, 2024

If you would like to watch the message, visit rpc.me/messages.

READ

In this week's message, we will explore the history of baptism and gain a better understanding of its meaning. Read Jeremiah 17:13 and John 4:10.

QUESTIONS

- What words or phrases stand out to you in these passages? ([The Lord is our hope and is the source of living water](#))
- What are some of the things that you thirst for today? ([Such as purpose, hope, peace, etc.](#))
- Steve mentioned that a Mikveh was a bath located in a home, synagogue, or at the temple that was used to cleanse or purify you. The purpose of immersion in a mikveh was to emerge clean. The Hebrew word for “hope” in Jeremiah 17:13 is mikveh signifying the Lord as the great purifier. Mikveh in the New Testament is a concept related to baptism. Share briefly about your experience of baptism growing up and how that experience shaped your thinking about baptism.
- Reflecting on Steve’s message, what did you hear that was new to you?
- What do you think are people’s objections to baptism? ([Steve mentioned five reasons people wait to be baptized: 1\) It’s not important; 2\) I don’t feel ready; 3\) I’m good enough; 4\) I don’t have the right clothes; 5\) People think I already was baptized and 6\) I was baptized as an infant/child.](#))
- How would you answer those objections? What was your takeaway from Steve’s response to those objections? ([Baptism is a mind shift and recognizing it is not about what you do but what God has done for you. We will never be good enough on our own. All you have to do is receive the gift of grace, peace and mercy God gave to you through His Son, Jesus.](#))
- If you’ve been baptized, share your experience:
 - What was your life like before you were baptized?
 - What led to your decision to be baptized?

- What would you say to someone thinking about baptism?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- What point in this group discussion was most impactful for you?
- What is something God wants you to do now?
- If you have been baptized, how do you feel about sharing your baptism story with others? God can use your story to encourage others to take a next step in their faith journey!

CLOSE IN PRAYER: How can the group pray for you now and in the days ahead?

LEADERS: Looking for something fun to do with your group?! Come as a group to **Comedy Night Out on Friday, April 12th at 7pm**. The Yard & Grill will be open from 6-7pm so come grab dinner with your group before the show! To learn more and register visit rpc.me/events or westend.me/events.

Note: This is our last week of the Sermon Discussion Guide. If your group will continue meeting and you need group studies, let me know!