**Series: Grow Through**

**Today’s Message: There’s Something in the Water**

**Speaker: Ronnie Norman**

**1. Do You Have “Yes” Anxiety?**

* You grow through your commitments.

**2. Stirring The Water**

***Luke 3:21-22***

***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.”*

***Luke 12:50***

*But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed!*

**A. Baptism is the normative response following a confession of faith.**

“We cannot forget that baptism is so closely tied to the act of conversion as to make them almost inseparable in the practice of the NT church.” (Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*)

***Acts 2:41***

*So then, those who had received his word were* ***baptized****; and there were added that day about three thousand souls.*

***Acts 8:2***

*But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being* ***baptized****, men and women alike.*

***Acts 8:36***

*And as they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being* ***baptized****?" 37 And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." 38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch; and he* ***baptized*** *him.*

***Acts18: 8***

*And Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his household, and many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being* ***baptized****.*

***Acts 16:30-34***

***30*** *“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”*

***31****They (Paul & Silas) replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”* ***32****Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.*

***33****At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized.* ***34****The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.*

***Acts 22:16***

*'And now why do you delay? Arise, and be* ***baptized****, and wash away your sins, calling on His name”*

**From Difficult Passages in the New Testament, by Dr. Robert Stein, Bethel Theological Seminary**

“In a similar way the present-day practices of baptizing people long before faith (infant baptism) or after faith (Believer’s baptism) make it difficult to understand the New Testament teaching on the subject…In the Book of Acts however, baptism is intimately connected with conversion.  With few (if any) exceptions it occurred on the same day.  The Philippian jailer was baptized the very night of his conversion (Acts 16:33); the Ethiopian eunuch was baptized immediately (Acts 8:36-38).  Baptism for them was less a testimony and confession to the world than part of the process of becoming a Christian.”

**B. Scripture calls you back to your baptism time and time again.**

***Romans 6:4***

*We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*

***Galatians 3:26-28***

***26****So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith,* ***27****for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.* ***28****There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

***Titus 3:5-6***

***5****God saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,* ***6****whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior …*

***3. Some Questions***

***Baptisms Today: 3-5pm. Worship Center.***