



Pastor Joshua Hughes :: April 14th, 2013

### INTRODUCTION

At Four Oaks, we celebrate believers' baptism by immersion - an outward, public demonstration of an inward transformation of salvation by grace through faith. Pastor Josh walked us through three proclamations we make when we follow Jesus in baptism - Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Savior, Jesus is better.

Read Colossians 2:6-15 and open with prayer.

### BAPTISM PROCLAIMS THAT JESUS IS LORD

Pastor Josh said that receiving and walking in Jesus as Lord means rejecting false teachings about him and turning away from all other things or people who would be lord over us (v 8), walking in obedience to Jesus' commands in Scripture.

Why is it important to identify and reject false teaching about Jesus?

Pastor Josh said that we are ruled by what is ultimate in our lives. What does it mean to have Jesus as Lord?

### BAPTISM PROCLAIMS THAT JESUS IS SAVIOR

Baptism signifies dying to sin and being raised to walk in newness of life. What are the implications of being dead to sin? How can this truth help you in your battle against sin?

Verse 13 says that God made us alive together with Jesus, having forgiven all our trespasses. Why is it important to recognize that Jesus died for all our sins? How can you apply this truth in your battle against discouragement?

What are some of the implications for our public proclamation that we have been forgiven all our sins? How should this truth impact the way we live before nonbelievers? How should this truth impact the way you share your faith?

### BAPTISM PROCLAIMS THAT JESUS IS BETTER

What changes does it bring about in your life when you believe that Jesus is better than anything else you could have? Spend some time praying together, rehearsing the benefits of salvation that are yours because of Jesus. Share some scripture passages that articulate the blessings that are ours in him.