# One Thing

**Baptism** 

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#### Message Summary •••

We can't earn a spot in heaven; it's our faith in Jesus that grants us entry.
Baptism is a gift symbolizing unity with Christ, humility, and obedience, and every New Testament conversion includes belief and baptism, underscoring its importance.

#### Key Scriptures •••

<sup>21</sup> Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. <sup>22</sup> But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe. Children of God

<sup>23</sup> Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

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

Galatians 3:21-28 (NIV)

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

#### Start Talking •••

Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Thinking about the idea of 'one more thing' from the sermon, what's one quirky or unexpected thing you always find yourself doing before leaving the house?
- Watch this week's Sermon Refresh: <u>Here</u> (Available Mondays)

### Start Thinking •••

Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Please read the Key Scriptures on the left.
- How do these passages explain the importance of faith and baptism in becoming united with Christ?

### Start Sharing •••

Choose a question(s) to create openness.

- Have you ever participated in a meaningful ceremony or event that made you feel deeply connected to others? What was it like?
- What are some ways we can express our faith and commitment to Christ in our daily lives, similar to how baptism symbolizes this commitment?
- What is one specific step you can take this week to strengthen your faith or demonstrate your commitment to Jesus?

## Start Praying •••

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of baptism and the unity it brings us with Christ. Guide our hearts to embrace faith and obedience, and help us support one another in our spiritual journeys. May we grow closer to You and reflect Your love in all we do. Amen.

## Start Doing •••

Reflect on your personal faith journey and identify one area where you can deepen your commitment to Christ. Whether it's through baptism, prayer, serving others, or sharing your faith story, take a step to actively live out your faith and encourage someone else to do the same.