

# A Watermarked Life

## A HIGHER THINGS® PRE-CONFERENCE BIBLE STUDY: Part 2 Leader's Guide

1. What happens in our Watermarked birth?  
Read **Romans 6:3; Galatians 3:26-27, 4:7.**  
*See the first Bible study. Our Old Adam, our sinful nature, is crucified with Christ (Rm. 6), and we are made new in Him (Gal. 3) and a son of God and an heir of His kingdom (Gal. 4).*
2. Discuss the following questions:
  - It is a great day to be alive in Christ, but now what do I do?
  - God has given us a Watermarked birth, but who does a Watermarked life look like?
  - What difference does my Baptism make for me today?
3. Read **Romans 6:4, 11** and the fourth part of Baptism from Luther's *Small Catechism*, "What does such baptizing with water indicate?"  
*Jesus does not die and rise from death simply to put our Old Adam to death, but to also give us new life in Him. Baptism both kills, but also makes alive. We are put to death in Baptism, but for the purpose of living.*
4. If Baptism is the gift of life, what life? Who am I? Read **Galatians 3:26-29; 1 Corinthians 12:13;** and **Galatians 2:20.**  
*The better question is "Whose am I?" We are children of God and members of the body of Christ. We belong to God in Christ. We have put on Christ so that when God looks at us, He sees His Son. It is not we who live, but Christ who lives within us. Our life is a life of faith.*
5. What does Jesus say our Watermarked life in Him should look like? Read **Matthew 4:17.**  
*Jesus tells us to repent.*
6. What does Martin Luther say about our Watermarked life?  
*The first of Luther's Ninety-Five Theses was that, "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent,' He willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance."*
7. If Jesus tells us to repent and Luther tells us that the "entire life of believers" (that is those who have been Watermarked) is to be one of repentance, what is repentance?  
*Repentance is turning from one thing to another. Repentance is turning from our Old Adam, our sinful nature, to God. Baptism works repentance (see Acts 2:38) and begins the life of continual repentance.*
8. How do I live a Watermarked life of repentance? Read **Colossians 3:1-5a.**  
*Repentance, like Baptism and Confession, has two parts. First that we put away, even put to death, our Old Adam, our sins and evil desires on a daily basis, and confess them. Then, second, that we receive from God new life in Christ, absolution, that is forgiveness. We set our minds not on earthly, fleshy, sinful things, but on higher things, the things that are above, the things of God.*  
  
*The Watermarked life is the life that turns from sin to God and continues to receive His gifts of Word and Sacrament.*

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