

TOGETHER WITH ONE VOICE

We Are Baptized Into The King

April 5, 2015 - Pastor Derwin L. Gray

- **Open in prayer.**

- **Introduction.**

If we're honest with ourselves, we know from an early age there's a longing and looking for more in our lives.

But we're not quite sure what that more is...and no one deceives us more than we do ourselves.

If I just finish school I'll be happy.

If I just finish college I'll be satisfied.

If I get the right job, the right house, the right car.

If I find the right girlfriend, boyfriend, spouse, friends...I'll be satisfied.

In our relationships...if I can just get the right relationship.

But like the words of the song sung by Otis Redding and Mic Jagger, "I can't get no satisfaction".

What is the more we're looking and longing for?

The More...the Hope...the Satisfaction we're looking for is Jesus.

Easter is God the Father's way of saying to us, *the looking and longing for more is found in being baptized into my Son, King Jesus.*

- **Read Romans 6:1-5.**

- **You are baptized into King Jesus' death.**

- **Read and discuss Romans 6:1-3.**

- In the Greek sin means to *miss the mark*. Sin is a distortion of what God created to be beautiful.

- o When you think of sin, what picture comes to your mind?

- o When you say no to God and yes to sin you distort things. What examples can you give for distorting something God created for beauty?

- o The Bible says, *you are His workmanship*. This Scripture means you're literally a picture of poetry and artwork. How can you distort that picture?

- In Christ, God wants to restore your beauty. Discuss the two acts of baptism.

- o The act of spiritual baptism. You are woven into Jesus. When God sees you He sees Jesus.

- o The act of physical baptism. A symbolic picture of being united in Christ.

- On the cross a miracle happens. God crucifies and buries your sins with Christ.

- Review and discuss the things that separate you from God as seen in Romans 1:18-32.

- o Hatred of God You live your own life...independent of God.

- o Evil You compare yourself to others. Pride. Stealing God's glory.

- o Sexual Immorality Sex is an act of worship between husband and wife. Anything else is a distortion.

- o Insolent Rude...selfishness.

- o Disobey your parents Disrespect is pride.

- o Break your promises Unfaithful in marriage, in relationships.

- o No mercy Anger...unforgiveness.

- o Envy Social media is an illusion of the more.

There's always somebody with more....and it robs you of your joy.

- o Proud/Boastful Do you take the credit for what God has done for you, given to you?

- o Backstabbers Disrespect of others.

- o Unrighteousness Righteousness is keeping the 10 commandments. You can't but Jesus can.

- o Idolatry Replace Jesus with something else and all the things above happen.

Do you make created things your God instead of the uncreated Creator?

- Jesus became ugly, distorted, sin for you on Good Friday.
- But on Sunday morning, Beauty Himself woke up and came to life.
 - How does that transform the way you live (the above sins) in light of what Jesus did through His life, death, and resurrection?

- **You are baptized into King Jesus' life.**
- **Read and discuss Romans 6:4-5.**
 - In heaven you'll receive a resurrected body. But right now, you have new life through Christ! The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is the same power that is in you when Christ lives in and through you.
 - How does knowing Christ wants to live in and through you impact your relationship with other people?
 - How does this truth give you hope?
 - Share how this truth has rewritten your own life story. Let others share.
 - Take a moment to praise God for giving us new life through Christ here on earth.

- **Receive and live from King Jesus' love.**
- **Read and discuss 1 John 4:7-8, 16**
- When Jesus stepped out the tomb Love Himself stepped out of the tomb and wants to live in and through you. This love moves you from living a selfish life to living a selfless life.

- *The Vision of Transformation Church is to be a multi-ethnic, multi-generational, mission-shaped community that loves God completely (upward), ourselves correctly (inward) and our neighbors compassionately (outward).*
 - Discuss how our Vision reflects this Scripture passage.
 - Discuss the statement, *the greatest love we can ever have is the reality of our hearts bursting and beating with His love.*
 - How does God' overwhelming love transform the way you live? Interact with other people?
 - What impact can you make at home, at school, at work as you allow His love to live in and through you?
 - How does God's unconditional love for you continue to transform your behavior? (HINT: Sanctification - you are being saved day by day.)

- **Receive and live from King Jesus and the Holy Spirit's power.**
- **Read and discuss Romans 8:9-11.**
- The Spirit of God wants to live in and through you and wants to accomplish God-sized things through you!
 - Discuss the following statements:
 - There are God accomplishments with your name on them.
 - There are unanswered prayers because you're not walking into your destiny.
 - The image of God is stamped on you and He wants to do God-accomplishments with your name on them.

- **Soul-tattoo: Receive Jesus as your God and King.**
 - Receive from King Jesus His life, love and power!
 - Celebrate and pray for the 114 people who were baptized on Easter Sunday!

- **Close in prayer.**
 - Pray for Transformers—you and me—to be the heart, hands and feet of King Jesus!