

Faith@Home 3—Sacraments

What is a sacrament?

A **command** of Jesus attached to a tangible **element** with the promise of **grace**

- God's command & promise of grace are primary
- Our faith is secondary and receives God's grace
 - Our faith doesn't make the sacrament; God's Word (of command & promise) does

Baptism

Command of Jesus

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (Matt 28:19)

Element of water

And as they were going along the road they came to some **water**, and the eunuch said, “See, here is **water!** What prevents me from being baptized?” (Acts 8:36)

Promise of grace

1. Union with Christ

- a. “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **We were buried therefore with him by baptism** into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if **we have been united with him** in a death like his, we shall certainly be **united with him** in a resurrection like his.” (Romans 6:3-5)
- b. “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have **put on Christ.**” (Galatians 3:27)

2. Forgiveness of sins

- a. “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for the forgiveness of your sins...**” (Acts 2:38)
- b. “And now why do you wait? Rise and **be baptized and wash away your sins...**” (Acts 22:16)

3. Gift of the Holy Spirit

- a. “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and **you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**” (Acts 2:38)
- b. “But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, **by the washing** of regeneration and renewal **of the Holy Spirit...**” (Titus 3:4-5)

4. New Life in the Holy Spirit

- a. "...by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of **eternal life.**" (Titus 3:5-7)
- b. Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is **born of water and the Spirit,** he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is **born of the Spirit** is spirit." (John 3:5-6)

5. Salvation

- a. "**He saved us,** not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, **by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,** whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior" (Titus 3:5-6)
- b. "God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while **the ark** was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. **Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you...**" (1st Peter 3:20-21)
- c. "Whoever believes and is baptized **will be saved,** but whoever does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

Who can be baptized?

And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **For the promise is for you and for your children, and all who are far off,** everyone **whom the Lord our God calls to himself.**" (Acts 2:38-39)

"Now they were bringing **even infants** to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to him, saying, "**Let the children come to me,** and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, **whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.**" (Luke 18:15-17)

Communion

Commands of Jesus

²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “**Take, eat;** this is my body.” ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “**Drink of it, all of you,** ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” (Mt 26:26-29, cf. Mk 14:22-25 & Lk 22:18-20)

²³For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. **Do this in remembrance of me.**” ²⁵In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. **Do this,** as often as you drink it, **in remembrance of me.**” ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.” (1Cor 11:23-26)

Elements of bread & wine

²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took **bread**, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” ²⁷And he took a **cup**, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you...” (Matthew 26:26-27)

Promise of grace

1. Union with Christ

- a. ¹⁶“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the **communion** of the blood of **Christ**? The bread which we break, is it not the **communion** of the body of **Christ**?” (1Cor 10:16-18, KJV)

2. Jesus’ Body & Blood...

- a. ²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; **this is my body.**” ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for **this is my blood...**” (Matthew 26:26-27)

3. ... and everything that goes with it

- a. **Forgiveness of sins**
 - i. ²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many **for the forgiveness of sins.**” (Mt 26:26-28)

b. Membership in the covenant

- i. ²⁶ Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸ for this is **my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many** for the forgiveness of sins." (Mt 26:26-28)
- ii. "This is my body which is **for you**. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, **as often as you drink it**, in remembrance of me." (1Cor 11:24-25)

c. Eternal life

- i. ⁵³ "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ **Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.** ⁵⁵ For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him." (Jn 6:53-56)

4. Confession of faith

- a. "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, **you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**" (1Cor 11:26)