

For You and Your Children  
Part 2

Acts 2: 37-41 Deuteronomy 6:4-9  
May 8, 2016 Mothers' Day

***Peter replied, "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. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."*** – Acts 2:38-39

1. In Baptism, God promises the \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 2:38-39 ... ***And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children...***

1.1 The Holy Spirit brings us to \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus Christ.  
I Corinthians 12:3 ***Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit.***

1.2 The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ us of \_\_\_\_\_.  
John 16:8 ***And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.*** (ESV)

1.3 The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ us to be like \_\_\_\_\_.  
II Corinthians 3:18 ***And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.***

1.4 The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ us for ministry.  
Acts 1:8 ***But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."***

1.5 The Holy Spirit enables us to \_\_\_\_\_ with God's \_\_\_\_\_.  
Romans 5:5 ***And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.***

2. God makes promises to \_\_\_\_\_.

Exodus 3:6 ***Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.***

Exodus 20:4-6 ***"You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.***

II Samuel 7:16 ***Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever."***

Acts 16:33-34 ***And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. <sup>34</sup> Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God. (RSV. Cf. Acts 16:18, 18,8 and I Corinthians 1:16)***

3. In Baptism, \_\_\_\_\_ promise to raise children in the Faith. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 ***These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. <sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.***

Ephesians 6:4 ***Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.***

Proverbs 22:6 ***Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.***(ESV)

4. The baptized child must \_\_\_\_\_ the promise! John 3:7-8 ***"You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."***

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- If you could promise your child anything, what would it be? Wealth? Education? Success?
- The best thing you could offer would be the work of the Holy Spirit!
- On the one hand, you can't promise that, but God can and does!
- That's the main point of Baptism!

1. In Baptism, God promises the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38-39 ... ***And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children...***

- Last week we looked at part of what it means to be baptized – especially for adults.
- Today we look deeper into the meaning of Baptism, and what it means for our children when we bring them to be baptized.
- For both children and adults, Baptism signifies the promise of the Holy Spirit, as we said last week.
- Let's look at what the Holy Spirit does in our lives.
- Imagine the Holy Spirit at work in the life of your child!

1.1 The Holy Spirit brings us to faith in Jesus Christ.  
I Corinthians 12:3 ***Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.***

1.2 The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin.  
John 16:8 ***And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.*** (ESV)

1.3 The Holy Spirit transforms us to be like Christ.  
II Corinthians 3:18 ***And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.***

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Romans 5:5 ***And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.***

2. God makes promises to generations.

Exodus 3:6 *Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.*

Exodus 20:4-6 *"You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

■ **Emphasize verse 6, not verse 5!**

II Samuel 7:16 *Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever."*

Acts 16:33-34 *And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. <sup>34</sup> Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God. (RSV. Cf. Acts 16:18, 18,8 and I Corinthians 1:16)*

■ **This word order agrees with the Greek. NIV is misleading.**

### 3. In Baptism, parents promise to raise children in the Faith.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 ***These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.***

- “The preacher said that Charlie should be raised in a good Christian home, but I want him to stay with us!”
- Session should ask parents, “How do you intend to raise your child in the Faith? What is your plan?”
- Overheard a dad say, “I’m not gonna let someone tell me how to run my life.” I thought I knew what he meant. Sure enough, they rarely if ever came back to church and facebook postings indicate that Baptism was just another superstition they observe far more than an expression of any intention whatsoever to raise their children to know and follow Jesus.
- The best thing you can give your children. > football, soccer, ballet, piano or cello or flute or even guitar and saxophone lessons.
- Really even better than an education.

Ephesians 6:4 ***Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.***

- Mothers, too.
- It seems to work better when dad is involved.

Proverbs 22:6 ***Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.***(ESV)

4. The baptized child must claim the promise!

John3:7-8 ***“You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’<sup>8</sup> The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”***

■ Jessica coming to faith. Then Michael.

■ Your Baptism “took.”

Look at what the congregation promises!