



Week 1/June 3

Water: In the Beginnings

Read Genesis 1:1-2.

- What does complete chaos look like?
- Do you think of God as being present in the midst of complete chaos?
- Is God intimidated by the chaos of the waters?

Read/look over Genesis 1:3-25.

Identify 3 times that water is mentioned. Write a description or draw a picture of what happens in those verses.

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What begins in/with the waters in Genesis 1?

Did you know there is an entirely different creation story in Genesis 2?

Read Genesis 2:4b-25 and discuss how water appears differently in that version of creation.

Genesis moves us from watery chaos to God's good creation. It happens "in the beginning."

Now, think about the sacrament that involves water?

What begins with that sacrament?

Around your table share stories of your own baptism or if you remember the baptism of someone at your table, tell that story.

Read Matthew 3:13-17.

Just like at creation, there is water and the Spirit, and a voice. In which verses do you find those things?

- Water
- Spirit
- Voice

What is beginning in this passage?

Keeping It Watered

Baptismal water symbolizes washing the one who is baptized and also the beginning of new life as part of the body of Christ (the church). Particularly when babies are baptized, we make promises to help them grow. How do you help a plant grow? You WATER it! We're going to practice our promises this summer by having teams keep their 'team' plant watered and growing.

On your table are newspapers, silver sharpies, and a plastic planter. Send one person up to the front to choose your plant.

Use the sharpies to decorate the planter you'll be using. You can have every member write their name or draw a picture. Give the plant a name (a good one!) and write the plant's name on the pot (we want to be on a first-name basis with our plants this summer!).

Using the supplies on your table, add potting soil, dig a hole, and plant your plant. Give it a good watering. The task of your group is to keep the plant watered all summer - everyone should come check on the plant. During the summer we sometimes don't water ourselves (both drinking water AND getting nourishment from our faith) as much as we should.

Make a schedule with your team of how you will keep your plant and your faith watered and alive this summer!