

Raise Me

Series: Refining Prayers Part 3
New Life Church - 9.24.17
Pastor Jim Von Wald

Malachi 3:3 (TLB) *Like a refiner of silver he will sit and closely watch as the dross is burned away. He will purify {us}, the ministers of God, refining {us} like gold or silver, so that {we} will do our work for God with pure hearts.*

I. Leaving the past.

Romans 6:4-6 (NLT) *For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.⁵ Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was.⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin.*

II. Stepping into the future.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT) *This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT) *“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”*

Acts 2:37-38 (NLT) *Peter's words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"* ³⁸ *Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins, turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ to show that you have received forgiveness for your sins."*

III. Two common questions.

A. Is baptism for adults or infants?

1 Peter 3:21(NIV) *"This water symbolizes baptism.... the pledge of a good conscience toward God..."*

B. Does baptism save me?

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV) *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- [9] not by works, so that no one can boast."*

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