RADICAL FAITH

Sermon Outline

Key verses

Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Romans 6:3-4

Our Anabaptist heritage is powerful and beautiful

On January 21, 1525 George Blaurock was re-baptized.

Your baptism certificate was your birth certificate.

Getting re-baptized became punishable by death.

Around 2,500 Anabaptists were martyred.

Despite persecution, the movement grew.

Anabaptists maintained an emphasis on Jesus as central to all else.

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

BELIEVERS' BAPTISM

Opening Thought

The early Anabaptists felt so strongly about believers' baptism that they were willing to die for it. We too, should respond to Christ's call to follow him – no matter what the cost. This sort of radical faith leaves a legacy for generations to come, and it advances our mission of sharing the life-giving power of Jesus with the world.

Ice breaker

• Have you been baptized? Share about the experience. What was most meaningful about it? If you haven't, why?

Dig Deeper

- Read Mark 1:9-11. Why do you think Jesus was baptized?
- Read Matthew 28:18-10. What did Jesus command his followers do? How do you think baptism would help accomplish the mission of Jesus?
- Read Romans 6:1-7, 10. What stands out to you?
- How does baptism proclaim Christ to unbelievers?
- How familiar are you with Anabaptist history and theology? What questions do you have about the movement? (feel free to generate a list and send it to John Risner)
- How do you respond when people as, "What is a Mennonite?"

Closing

The Kingdom of God is filled with a beautiful array of people. From every tribe, nation, tongue, and tradition. While we appreciate our heritage, it is important to recognize that we are not the only ones to hear and respond to the gospel. We can celebrate the beauty and power of Anabaptists, while at the same time embracing people from other traditions. We are united by Christ!

MARCH 2 Discussion Guide