Baptism Sunday
"Same."
Romans 3:23; 6:23; 5:8; 10:9-13

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / November 1, 2026

I. We all have the same problem.

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Romans 6:23a "For the wages of sin is death…"

Everyone being baptized today needs the same Savior.
So do you.
So do I.

None of us can save ourselves.

II. We all need the same Savior.

Romans 5:8 "But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, **but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord**."

None of us can earn salvation.
All of us need to receive it.

III. We all must make the same response.

Romans 10:9-13 "Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. **11** For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame.' **12** For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing His riches on all who call on Him. **13** For 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'"

The same promise is offered to <u>you</u>.
Will you turn from your sin and trust in Jesus?

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:

1. What do these different baptism stories have in common? How does their shared need help you think about your own?
2. Why is it difficult to admit that we cannot save ourselves? What do people rely on to make themselves right with God?
3. Romans 5:8 says Christ died for us "while we were still sinners." How does that challenge the idea that we must clean ourselves up before coming to God?
4. According to Romans 10:9-13, how do we respond to the good news about Jesus? How is trusting Him different from simply knowing facts about him?
5. What is your next step in response to this gospel - trusting Christ, publicly identifying with Him in baptism, or sharing this good news with someone else?