

“Aha Moments About Jesus – His Baptism, January 11, 2015, page 2.

Going Deeper

1. Read Matthew 3:13-17 and briefly review the following five things that Jesus’ baptism symbolically communicates to us:
 - that he is our great high priest
 - that he would die and then be raised to life
 - that he is the Son of God
 - that he is the Lamb of God who took on our sins and failures
 - that he fully identified with suffering people in need

Which one of these represents the biggest “Aha moment” that Jesus’ baptism prompted in you? Why?

2. Reflecting on the final point, namely, Christ’s full identification with sinful and suffering people, Pastor Peter made this observation: “No-one is more inspiring than someone who gives up everything, even health and life, to come alongside people in need. That’s what Jesus did. Followers of Jesus are asked to go and do likewise.”
 - a. How was the story of Father Damien, the leper priest of Hawaii, a helpful example of someone identifying with suffering people as Jesus did?
 - b. Can you think of other examples, even personal ones, of the same kind of identification with people in need? Share some stories.
3. Where is God calling you to lower yourself and live a sacrificial life for or with someone else? What do you need or want to do to be obedient to this call?