

SERMON: GENESIS – BABEL (Genesis 11)

Pastor Augie Iadicicco
September 30, 2018

Noah brings a new beginning, but humanity quickly falls back into its old ways as it seeks to usurp God's position by building a tall tower. This tower demonstrates both the folly and the danger of human ambition. Human ambition is filled with folly because, of course, no one can build a tower to the heavens. But human ambition is also filled with danger because it cannot compete with God's perfect commands.

¹⁵ Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶ "Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. ¹⁷ Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number on it." – Genesis 8:15-17

God's will for humanity after the _____ ...

Genesis 9:1, Genesis 9:7

1. **Be _____.**
2. **Increase in _____.**
3. **Spread out and _____ the earth.**

_____ will for humanity after the flood ...

Genesis 11:1-4

1. **Stay put in a _____.**
2. **Make a _____ for themselves.**
3. **Reach _____ by human might & ingenuity.**

God's will _____ be done!

Genesis 11:5-9

God's will is _____ for us in _____ ...

Luke 10:27, Matthew 6:33, Philippians 2:1-11

... may it be done _____ also ...

Luke 11:28

"The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also." – Martin Luther, *Small Catechism* – Lord's Prayer, Third Petition



Questions for individual or group reflection:

Was God clear with His instructions to Noah & family?

What do you suppose Noah's descendants were thinking as they built the Tower of Babel?

Has God been clear to us about His expectations & instructions?

How has humanity tried to build "towers of Babel" today?

Have you tried to build your own Tower of Babel? How far did you get?

Describe the problem(s) with humans striving to attain their own significance and identity apart from God.

How did God respond to humanity's rebellion at Babel?

How does God respond to humanity's rebellion now?

Has God had to "redirect" you in response to your rebellion?

How has Christ accomplished for us what we have tried to accomplish apart from God?

Why do we pray "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done" in the Lord's Prayer?

How might we know and do God's will?

Taking it home / Memory Verse:

"He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

– Luke 11:28

GENESIS

BABEL

CHAOS



CHAOS



CHAOS







WORSHIP

*Sing to the
Lord a new
song; sing to
the Lord, all the
earth.*

Psalm 96:1



GROW

*Grow in the
Grace and
Knowledge of
Our Lord and
Savior Jesus
Christ.*

2 Peter 3:18



SERVE

*Be sure to fear
the Lord and
serve him
faithfully with
all your heart;
consider what
great things he
has done for you.*

1 Samuel 12:24



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SERVE

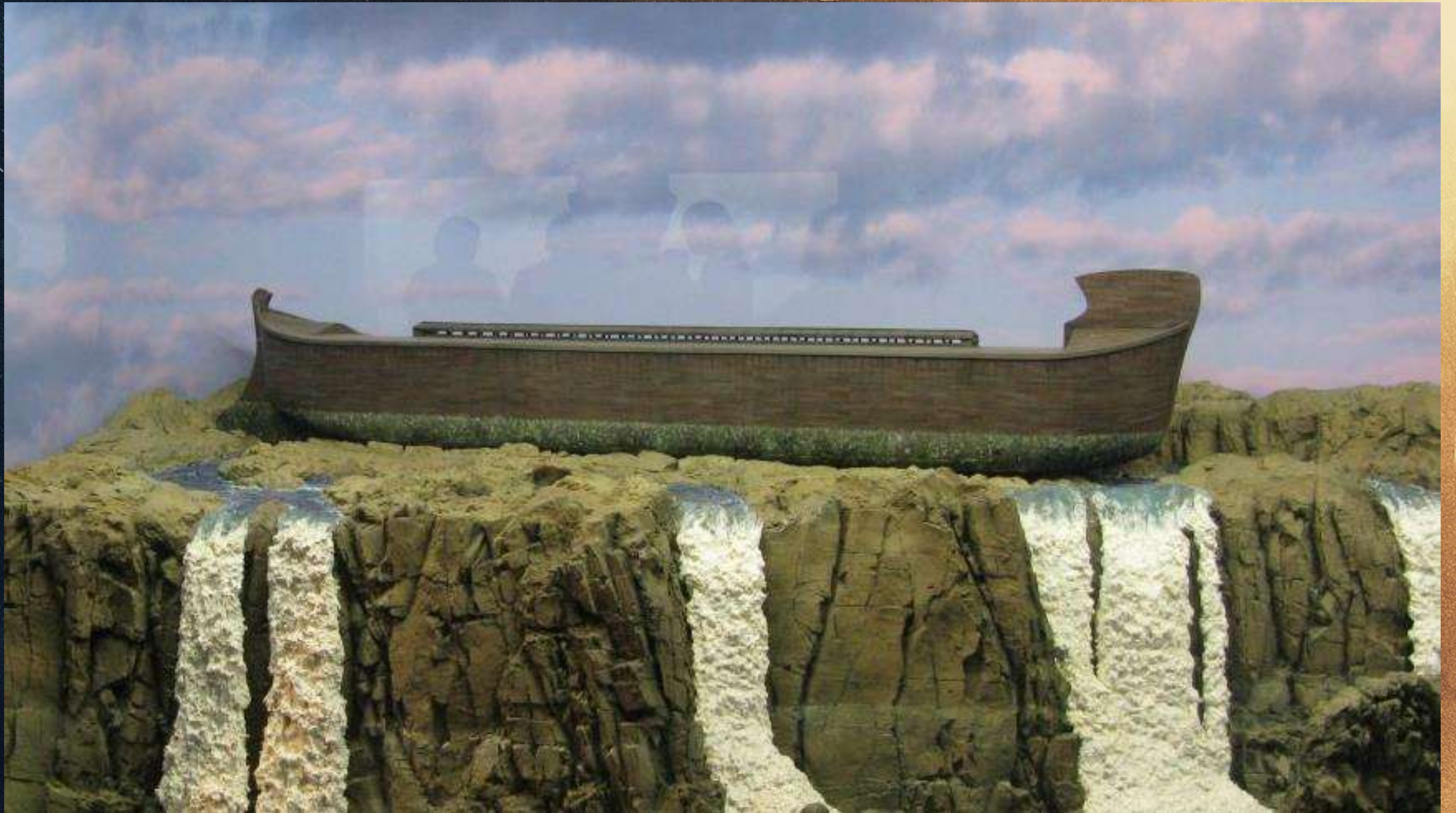
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GENESIS

BABEL



Then God said to Noah, “Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number on it.”

GENESIS 8:15-17

Then God said to Noah, “Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can **multiply** on the earth and be **fruitful** and **increase** in number on it.”

GENESIS 8:15-17

Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, “Be **fruitful** and **increase** in number and **fill the earth.**”

GENESIS 9:1

“As for you, be **fruitful** and **increase** in number; **multiply on the earth** and increase upon it.”

GENESIS 9:7

God's will for humanity after the FLOOD...

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1. Be FRUITFUL.

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1. Be FRUITFUL.

2. Increase in NUMBER.

God's will for humanity after the FLOOD...

1. Be FRUITFUL.
2. Increase in NUMBER.
3. Spread out and FILL the earth.

Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. As people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. . . .

GENESIS 11:1-4

Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a **city**, with a tower that **reaches to the heavens**, so that we may **make a name for ourselves**; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth.”

GENESIS 11:1-4

MAN'S will for humanity after the flood...

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1. Stay put in a **CITY**.

MAN'S will for humanity after the flood...

1. Stay put in a **CITY**.
2. Make a **NAME** for themselves.

MAN'S will for humanity after the flood...

1. Stay put in a **CITY**.
2. Make a **NAME** for themselves.
3. Reach **HEAVEN** by human might & ingenuity.

Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may **make a name for ourselves**; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth.”

GENESIS 11:1-4



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But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. The Lord said, “If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.” ...

GENESIS 11:5-9

So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. That is why it was called Babel—because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

GENESIS 11:5-9

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GENESIS 11:5-9

A photograph of a beach at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and long shadows. The sand is golden, and a path of footprints leads from the foreground towards the ocean. The sky is a mix of orange and blue. The overall mood is peaceful and reflective.

FOOTPRINTS

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonged to him, and the other to the LORD.

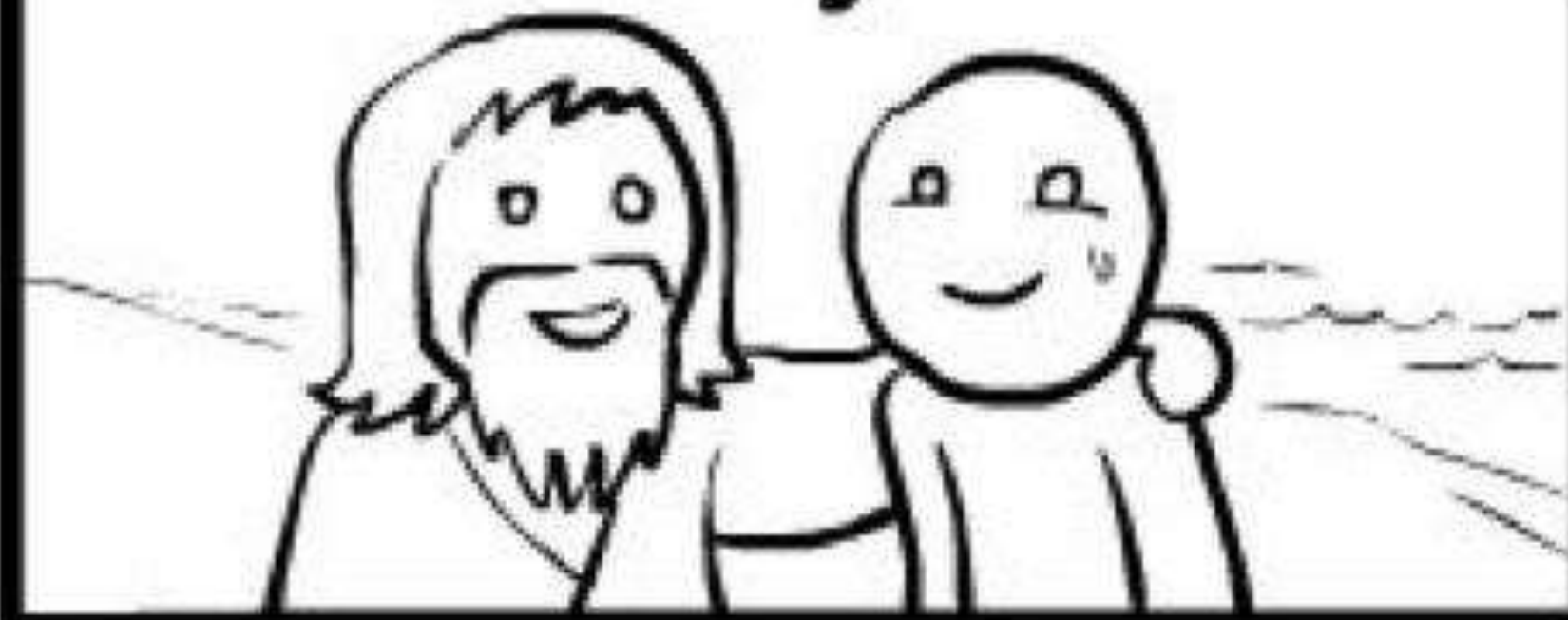
When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the LORD about it. "LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

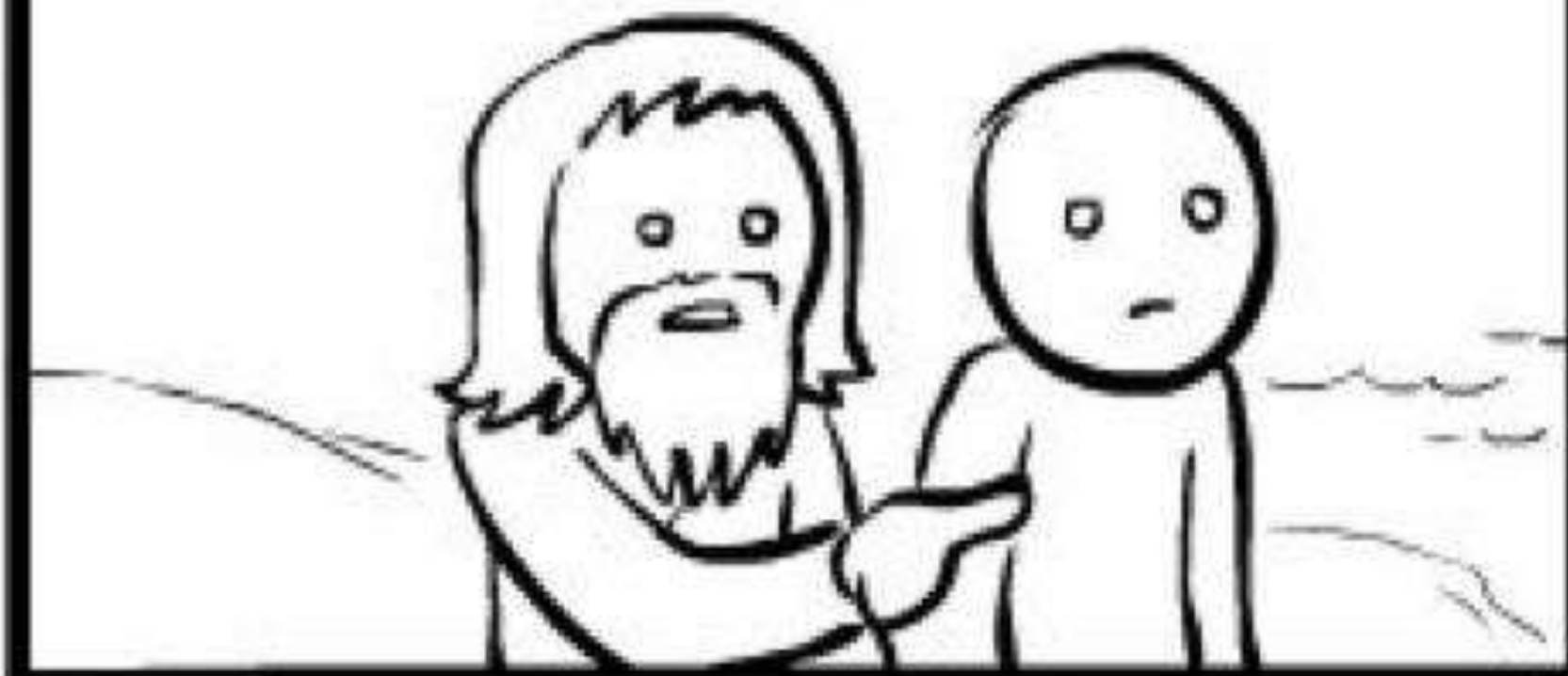
The LORD replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

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my child, i never left
you. those places with
one set of footprints?
it was then that i
carried you



that long groove
over there is when
i dragged you for a
while



God's will WILL be done!

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and
with all your soul and with all your strength and
with all your mind; and, Love your neighbor
as yourself.

LUKE 10:27

But **SEEK FIRST** His Kingdom and His
righteousness...

MATTHEW 6:33

...then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

PHILIPPIANS 2:2-4

God's will is DONE for us in CHRIST...

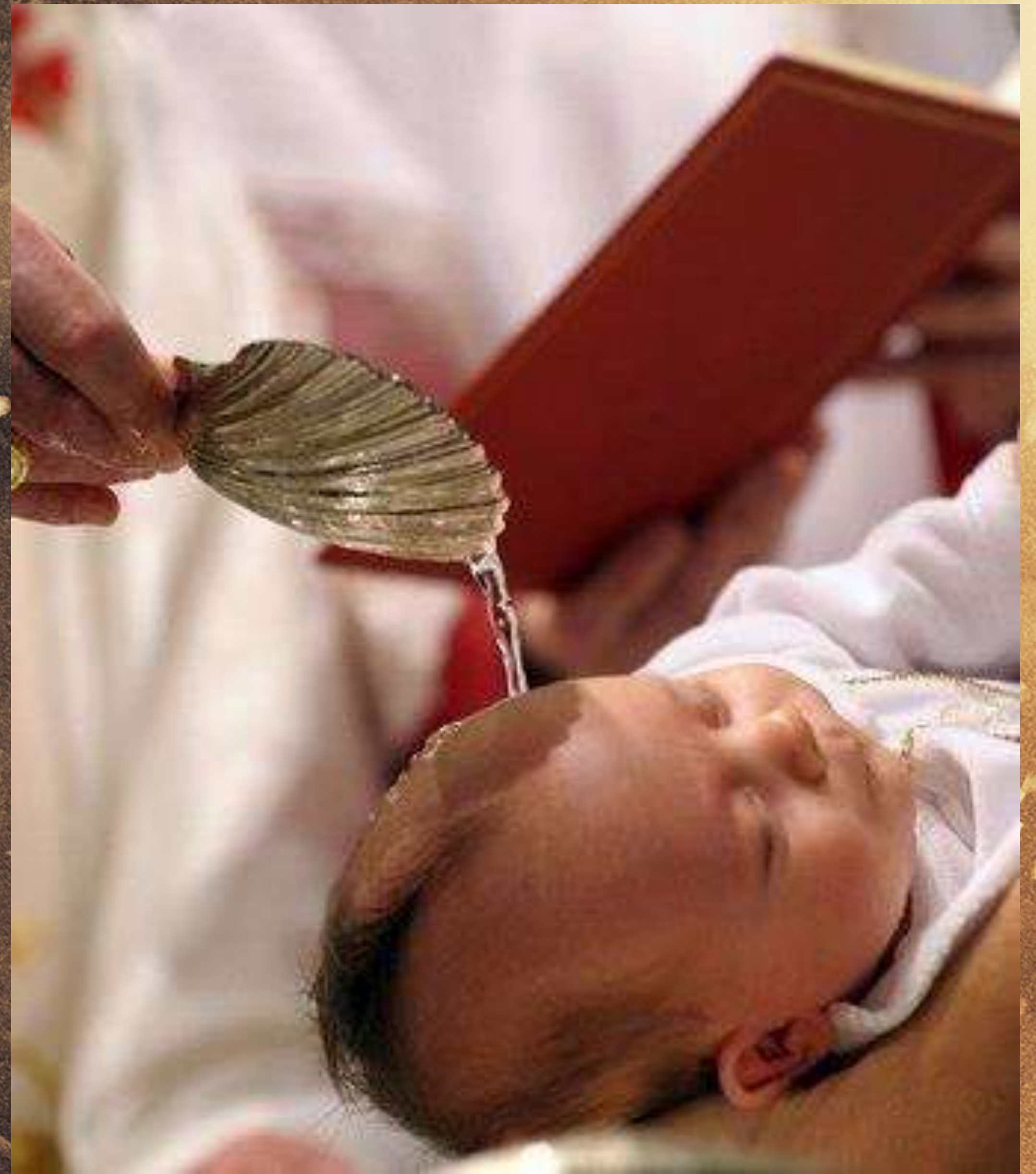


... Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!.

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-9







“The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.”

– Martin Luther, *Small Catechism* – Lord’s Prayer, Third Petition

God's will is DONE for us in CHRIST...

...may it be done AMONG US also...

*Blessed...are those who **hear the word** of
God and **obey it.***

LUKE 11:28

