

# MASTERPIECE

## Week 2: New Creation

Readings: Is 40:1-5, 9-11 | Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 | Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7 | Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

### FOCAL POINT

As we celebrate the baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ, we reflect on our own baptism. On this day, God claimed us as His own. The Holy Spirit came down upon us and made us each a temple of the Holy Spirit. God the Father lovingly adopted us and said of us what He said of Christ, "You are my beloved son, you are my much-loved daughter, with whom I am well-pleased."

We are called to live consciously as beloved children of God, summoned to live that new life in loving communion with God and others, behaving in the world in such a way that others may witness the difference baptism makes.

### SCRIPTURE

Read aloud from the Gospel of Luke. Then read aloud two more times.  
Ask the group what words or phrases jump out at them and why?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you ever find it difficult to believe that God has called you "Beloved"? Why or why not?
2. When have you been given the chance to turn over a new leaf? How is Baptism similar to this?
3. How does God's love for you impact the way you live in the world and interact with others?
4. What are ways you can celebrate the anniversary of your Baptism each year?

### APPLICATION

Your baptismal date is just as important as your birthday, and should be celebrated as such! It was that day that God's work of making you His masterpiece truly began. It is the day that He called you to share in His mission. Look up your baptismal date and add it to your calendar this year as a day of true celebration.