Lifestyle Evangelism is . . .

. . . Holy Baptism.

As noted before, the Lord uses the means of grace, namely, the Word of God (the Bible), and the Sacraments (Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper), to come to us. It is through these means that our Lord comes to us to give us His good gifts and blessings (faith, forgiveness, life and salvation). This week we concentrate on Holy Baptism.

As Christians, a big part of our lives is our Baptism. It is through our Baptism that the Lord puts His name on us (as water and His name, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, were put on us). He puts faith in our hearts. He gives us forgiveness of sins. He claims us. He writes our names in the book of Life. He gives us a part of His Kingdom.

This putting on us of God's name is very important, because what God puts His name on He claims as His; it belongs to Him. Thus, when God puts His name on us, we are His. We do not choose Him, He chose us.

Because our Baptism is so very important, it is a big part of our *Lifestyle Evangelism*. As we live each day, we face trials and tribulations, we struggle with the difficulties of each day, and we daily sin much and are in need of forgiveness; what a great witness we can make when we are reminded that when we "mess up" (when we sin) we have been baptized and we can start over, no matter what time of day or what time of life. And what a great opportunity to witness as we share this good news with others as they ask us how we do it.

We show how important our Baptism is when we do things like celebrating Baptismal birthdays along with regular birthdays. We show how important our Baptism is when we talk about the difference our Baptism makes; when we share what Baptism really is because of, what God works through Baptism, and when we live its importance in our own lives. We are adopted as children of God, our Heavenly Father and so we are a part of His family.

What great joy we have knowing that God has chosen us and has put His name on us - Christians. We are His. How important to live in this joy!