



# SPX Small Groups

*Life is Better Together*



 AN SPX MESSAGE SERIES

Unstuck: Week 2 – January 10  
Baptism of the Lord

- 1) Think of a memorable complement you've received. Who said it, what did they say, and why did it stick with you?
- 2) In the Gospel (Mark 1:7-11), Jesus is baptized by John the Baptist. "On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."
  - a. People went out to be baptized by John the Baptist for the forgiveness of sins. If Jesus was without sin, why might he have gone to be baptized by John?
  - b. Do you think Jesus was surprised by the voice or the message it announced? Why or why not?
  - c. Immediately after this story, the Gospel says that Jesus was "led by the Spirit" into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Why might God not just allow, but want Jesus to be tempted by the devil?
- 3) Can you think of an example of when other people's words have negatively shaped your self-value or self-image? Are you still listening to that voice?
- 4) Fr. Mike said that at our baptism, God told us who we are and who we are called to be in life – that we are children of God, chosen, and not forsaken. Do you believe that? If you struggle with that, why is it hard to believe?
- 5) Watch the small group extra and discuss.
- 6) It can be easy to tell ourselves stories justifying our bad behavior.
  - a. Describe an example where you have done something that you wouldn't "normally do" but seemed reasonable at the time. What story made it seem ok at the time?
  - b. Which is easier to see - when other people tell themselves stories or when you tell yourself stories? Why?
  - c. Are there any recent stories you have told yourself that are keeping you "stuck"?