

Washed up

When John the Baptist baptized people, he did so for the forgiveness of sins. He told people, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near!” and “I baptize you with water for repentance” (Matthew 3:2 & 11).

Think about your life.

How have you screwed up recently?

Take a marker and make a list of of the ways you have recently screwed up on your hand and arm.

After each thing you list, ask God for forgiveness.

Then use the washcloths, soap, and water to wash those sins off your hand and arm, to symbolize the way in which baptism washes away our sins.

Thank God for the gift of baptism – and for Jesus' death on the cross – and the way in which our sins are forgiven.