



<b>DATE</b>	March 13, 2016
<b>SPEAKER</b>	David Smith
<b>TITLE</b>	Jesus Baptized?
<b>SERIES</b>	God the Father could have just let us see Himself, but instead He sent Jesus as a human to reveal the Father to us. Didn't see that coming! Then Jesus was baptized. But isn't baptism an outward sign of an inward spiritual change? Didn't see that coming! Jesus' mission was to be our King and Savior, but He rode a donkey and died disgracefully. Didn't see that coming! And then there was the resurrection. Nobody saw that coming! What does all this mean?

1. Share a not so serious "I didn't see that coming" moment in your life. A moment like Pastor David shared when the bottom of his car rusted out and fell off. He didn't see that coming! Now share an "I didn't see that coming" moment where God surprised you. What might be the benefit for identifying and sharing God-moments we didn't see coming?
2. Why is the Gospel of John a strong place for those interested in Jesus Christ or a new believer in Jesus Christ to begin reading? Might you spend the remainder of March, up to Easter, in the book of John? Read for a set amount of time, or a set amount of chapters per day, sitting in the truth of God's Word in preparation for each week's teaching from Pastor David. As you read John for the remainder of this month, identify verses supporting Pastor David's three-word summary for the Gospel of John: Believe Jesus (Ch 1-5), Follow Jesus (Ch 6-10), and Trust Jesus (Ch 11-15).
3. Why did you get baptized? How has baptism changed your life? What holds you back from being baptized, if this is a step you have not yet taken in your spiritual journey? Why did Jesus get baptized? As you read the account of Jesus' Baptism in **Matthew 3:13-17**, identify where the Trinity is present. According to **Matthew 3:15**, how did Jesus answer John when John inquired of why Christ had come to him for baptism? Allow the following passages to support Jesus' answer to John: **Psalms 40:7, 8; John 4:34, 8:29**. What can we learn from the heart of Jesus as we live in obedience to the Father?
4. Through baptism, *Jesus was communicating a personal commitment to us*. How? You may have never spent so much time studying this passage of scripture or thinking this deeply about John baptizing Jesus. How has the personal commitment Jesus has for you impacted your perspective towards your circumstances? Allow Pastor David's messages in this "I Didn't See That Coming" series to transform your thinking toward Christ's personal commitment to you. How has God put "skin" in the game?
5. Read **John 11**. Spend the remainder of your time together discussing the death and resurrection of Lazarus in conjunction with Pastor David's five ways Jesus displays His personal commitment to us.
  - He walks with us in our fears (vv1-3). Read **Hebrews 13:5b-6**.
  - He assures us, even when it doesn't make sense (vv4-6). Read **Philippians 4:6-7**.
  - He strengthens us when there is a threat (vv6-16). Read **Deuteronomy 31:6** and **1 Peter 5:8**.
  - He feels our disappointment with His Plan A, which was our Plan B (vv17-37). Read **Isaiah 55:8-9**.
  - He is committed to His Word, even when it feels impossible (vv38-40). Share how God has recently communicated with you *through His Word* and by *prayerfully listening* to Him, and then confirmed what you heard Him say through a *trusted relationship* or *random sources* like a song on the radio or a book you are currently reading.

**CLOSING:** Jesus is completely committed to you, how committed are you to Him?