

***Why I am Glad I am Baptized and What my Dreams Are for my Family and Church***

By Steve "Pinky" Jones

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Christ the Redeemer Church

*(Note from Gary -- When I asked Pam what she remembered from Pinky's testimony last Sunday, she said, "I remember the tie part and I remember trying to catch Brenda's eye so she could pass me some Kleenex tissues.")*

When Gary asked me to speak to you I did not realize I would be speaking after Carla.

Carla, my hat is off to you. You are the best.

Gary asked me to write this down. I started to write my words down but I couldn't spell some of the words.

I even wore this tie today to give some funny clichés about how all of this ties together and about how I am tied to you and about how we are all tied to God.

But after Carla spoke about her life and about what she has gone through, nothing of what I was going to say makes much sense.

I have been a stranger to myself and to my family at times in the past.

Unbelievable.

I have been asked to give testimony before...mostly in front of lawyers and judges.

I am real glad to be baptized.

I felt clean when I came out of that San Marcos River, Curtis. My mom made sure I was baptized when growing up.

I felt clean again that day in the San Marcos River.

I am not perfect.

Some may see hypocrisy in the way I have been. I don't know.

Baptism gives me a reference that I heard back there.

I know now what I am supposed to feel like.

This tie. I am going to wear one more often.