

Small Catechism 3

Flame

How can water do such great things?

Answer: it is not the water indeed that does them

But the Word of God that is in and with the water

And faith which trusts such Word of God in the water

For without the Word of God, the water is simple water and no baptism

But with the Word of God, it is a baptism

That is, a gracious water of life and a washing of regeneration in the Holy Ghost

As Saint Paul says, Titus chapter 3

"By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost

Which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ, our Savior

That, being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life"

This is a faithful saying