

9. Jesus Is Baptized

The Word of the Lord: The New Testament for Young Children

Notes for Parents & Teachers

9. Jesus Is Baptized

- a) Talk to the children about their own baptism. Remind them that when a minister did their baptism, he did it in the name of the Lord. So really it was the Lord Himself who baptized them. Remind them that angels are with them when they are baptized, helping them to believe in and obey the Lord.
- b) Remind children that John the Baptist was a special man, born to very old parents, a miracle baby. Pay attention to his clothes. He wore the same clothes that the great prophet Elijah wore. Camel's hair is rough, hard on the skin.
- c) John was a man with a very strong mind, and he had to do a hard job. People didn't like being told to stop doing bad things, which was what he told them.
- d) Why was the Lord baptized? John knew who He was and felt Jesus was the one to baptize *him*, but Jesus was showing us what we should all do.
- e) Being baptized means being a Christian and obeying the Word. Later, when the Lord was leaving this earth, He told the disciples to baptize people (see Matthew 28).
- f) Ask children to imagine what the people around John and the Lord felt when they could see into heaven and hear the wonderful voice coming from there.



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The Lord Is Baptized in the River Jordan

In those days came John, the son of Zacharias, preaching in the wilderness of Judea saying, “Stop doing wrong! The kingdom of heaven is near. As it is written in the Word: Prepare the way of the Lord.”

And John wore clothes of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. Then there came out to him the people of Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the countryside near the River Jordan. And they were baptized by John in the River Jordan. And he said, “I baptize you with water, but He that comes after me is mightier than I. He shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the River Jordan to John to be baptized by him. But John stopped Him and said, “I have need to be baptized by You, and You come to me?” And Jesus answering, said to him, “Let it be so now.”

And Jesus, when He was baptized, went straight out of the water. Then the heavens were opened, and John saw the Spirit, like a dove, coming down upon Jesus. And a voice from heaven said, “This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.”

Matthew 3, Mark 1, Luke 3

