

## Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're going to learn about the day Jesus got baptized. Remember, last week we talked about Jesus' cousin, John, who would baptize people in the river. He baptized so many that his nickname was John the Baptist! One day, Jesus came to John and asked John to baptize him. John's initial reaction was, "No way! You're Jesus. You should be baptizing me!" But, Jesus insisted that John baptize him. You know why? Because Jesus wanted to model what he wanted his followers to do. Baptism is a really important symbol that shows what Jesus came to do for us. Going into the water means we're dying to our sin and coming out of the water means we get to live a new life with Jesus. So, when we get baptized, we're announcing to the world that we belong to Jesus. And, that makes God really happy to see people say that they belong to him. So kids, if you've trusted in Jesus, talk to your parents about getting baptized. It will make God smile!

### Big Idea

*Baptism reminds us of what Jesus did for us.*

### Key Question

*Why should we get baptized?*

### Memory Verse

*Romans 6:4 "And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives."*

### Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: Have you ever watched someone get baptized? Where were you and what did you notice?** (Tip: Some people get baptized during a church service. Others do it in a river, lake or pool. It always includes water.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **Because it makes God happy and the Bible tells us we should.** (The story of Jesus' baptism tells us that God was happy when Jesus was baptized. Baptism is the symbol of what Jesus came to do- to save the world from sin. This was always God's plan. And, because of Jesus, we get to have relationship with God, and that makes God happy, too! He loves us. And, the Bible tells us to get baptized so others can hear about Jesus.)
  - **Bonus Questions:** Why should we get baptized? How could your baptism impact a friend? **4-5th:** Have you thought about getting baptized? Explain. If you already have been, share about your experience.
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read Colossians 2:13-14. What does it mean to be dead in our sins? What did Jesus do with our sin?** (Answer: This just means that because of our sin, we can't have a relationship with God. Sin controls us until we put our trust in Jesus. When we trust in Jesus, he breaks the power of sin. He nails it to the cross and we are free of it. Then, we get to live a new life in Jesus where he gives us the power to live for him.)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to [pursueGOD.org/kids](http://pursueGOD.org/kids) to find this week's lesson video.

**Teacher instructions:** Choose an activity for your classroom.

## OPTION 1: BAPTISM BOOKMARK

### Instructions:

- Give each kid a Bookmark template (page 5).
- Have kids cut out each item. Have them color their bookmark.
- Then, have them glue each box onto the bookmark.
- As they work, remind the kids what baptism symbolizes. Going into the water means we're dead to our sin and washed clean and coming out of the water means we are forgiven and can live a new life in Jesus. Encourage the kids to talk to their parents if they're interested in being baptized.

**Supplies needed:** Bookmark template (pg. 5, 1 set per kid), Scissors, Crayons, Glue

## OPTION 2: MEMORY VERSE GAME

### Instructions:

- Before class, cut up the Memory verse words (pg. 6-7) and place in a bowl or basket.
- Have one kid come up and pull a word from the bowl. Tape it up on the whiteboard.
- Continue having kids come up and pulling a word and tape each one on the whiteboard as you go.
- Once all the words are on the board, work as a class to get the words in the correct order to say the memory verse.

**Supplies needed:** Memory verse words (pg. 6-7, pre cut, 1 set per class), Tape

# The Baptism of Jesus

*Hey kids and parents! Fill in the blanks as you talk about this week's lesson together. Have fun!*

## Key Points

- John didn't want to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus, because he didn't feel \_\_\_\_\_. Matthew 3:13-14
- Jesus wanted to get baptized to be a \_\_\_\_\_ to us. Matthew 3:15
- When Jesus was baptized, \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ was really happy. Matthew 3:17
- Baptism is a very important symbol that helps us remember what \_\_\_\_\_ did for us. Romans 6:4

### Big Idea

*Baptism reminds us of what Jesus did for us.*

### Key Question

*Why should we get baptized?*

### Memory Verse

*Romans 6:4 "And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives."*

## Talk About It

1. What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?
2. Have you ever watched someone get baptized? Where were you and what did you notice?
3. What did Jesus want John to do?
4. What does baptism symbolize?
5. Read Colossians 2:13-14. What does it mean to be dead in our sins? What did Jesus do with our sin?
6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

**Instructions:** Color the picture.

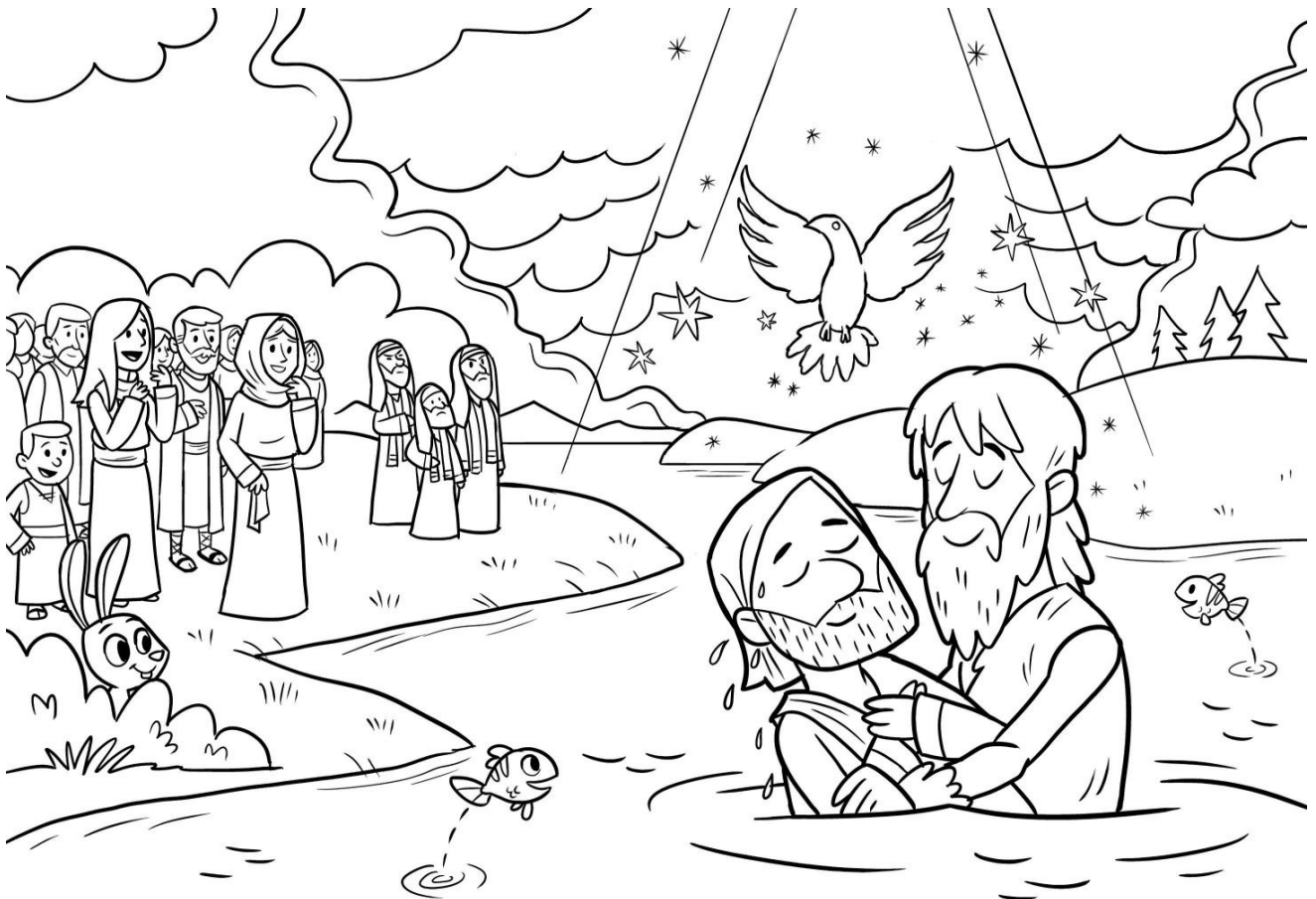
# BAPTISM REMINDS US OF WHAT JESUS DID FOR US

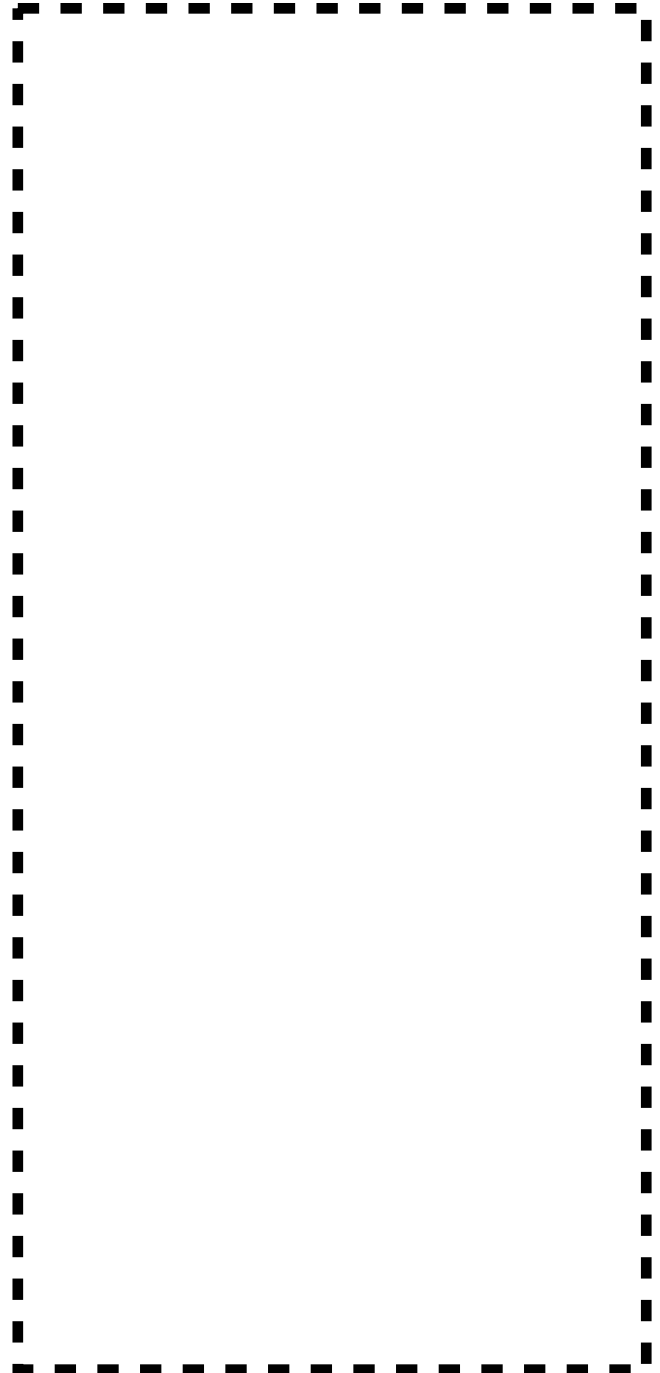
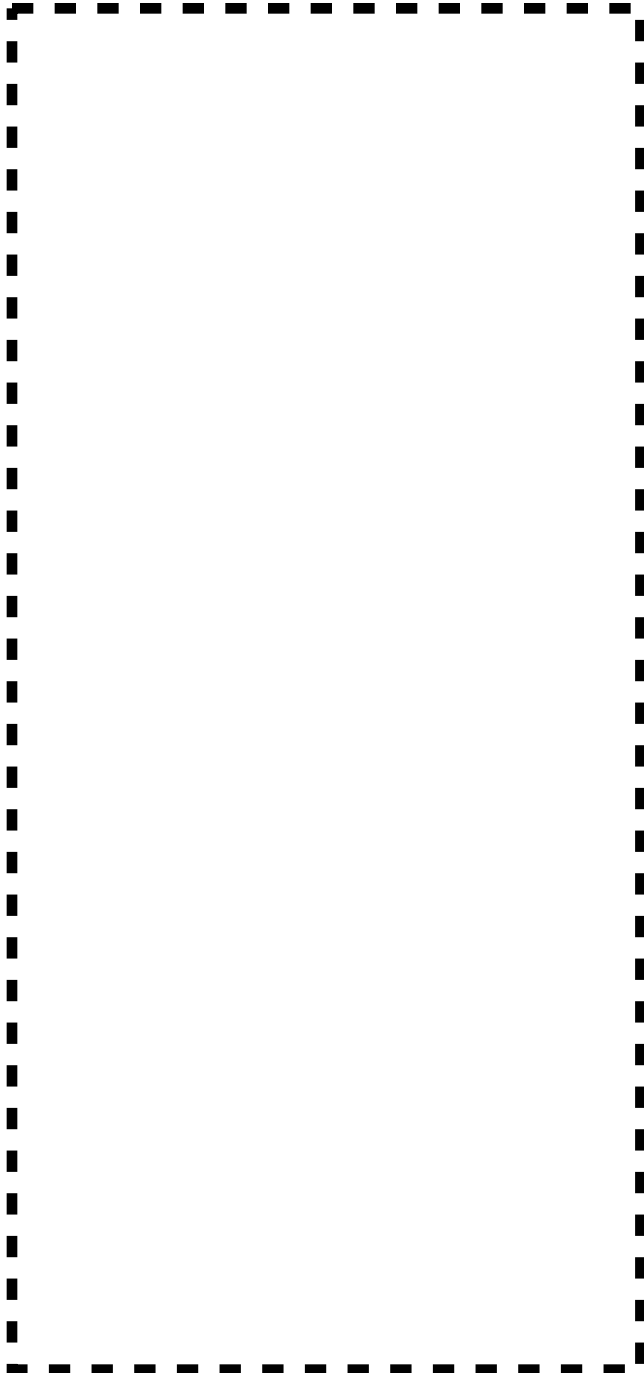
## Key Question

*Why should we get baptized?*

## Memory Verse

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