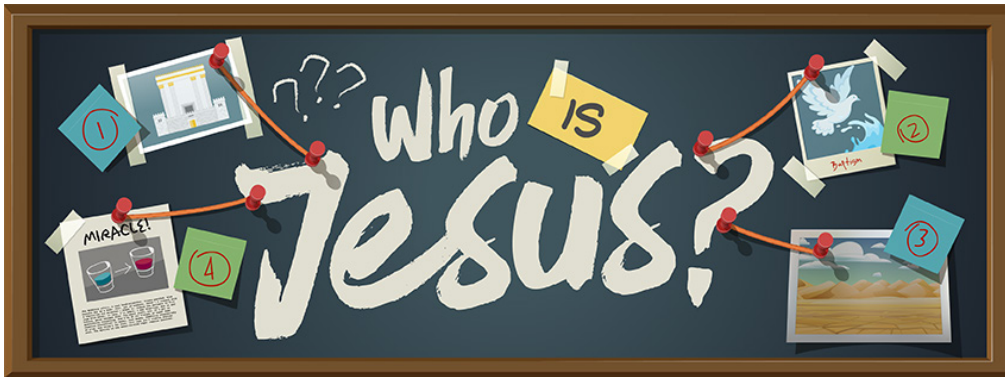




JESUS' BAPTISM

LESSON AT A GLANCE

■ New Apostolic Church USA



CURIOSITY

An object lesson, experiment, or activity that sparks curiosity, encourages exploration, and gets kids thinking about the wonder of God.

- Welcome Question: *Who are you? I am _____.*
- Object Lesson: Pieces of Me
- Declaring God's Wonder

BELIEF *Choose either Hear It or Experience It and supplement with the video*

A deep and interactive dive into Scripture that guides kids into knowing God more deeply, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

- Opening Prayer
- God's Big Story: Hear It, Watch It, Experience It!
- Connecting the Wonder Truth

FAITH

An intentional conversation that helps kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own, emboldening their faith and fostering a deeper understanding of their place in God's kingdom.

- Discussion Questions for Younger and Older Kids
- Small Group Prayer Time

IDENTITY

An interactive worship response activity that creates space for God to remind kids of these core truths: I am known, I am loved, I am led, and my life can tell of God's wonder.

- Responding in Worship: Praise Songwriting
- Blessing Your Kids

JESUS' BAPTISM

LESSON 2

NAC USA

Goals and Objectives

[IA 3-5, 7-9, 13-15, 17-19, 27-29](#) [IB 1, 3, 5](#) [IC 1-13](#)

[IE 1-3](#) [IIA 3, 6, 10](#)

[IIIA 1-3](#)

WONDER TRUTH:

Jesus Is God's Son

SCRIPTURE:

[Mark 1; Matthew 3](#)

GOD'S BIG STORY:

John the Baptist prepares the way for Jesus by encouraging people to repent and be baptized. At Jesus' baptism, God reveals that Jesus is His own Son.

WORD OF WONDER:

[Colossians 1:15](#)

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.

He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation...



Lesson
PPT Slides



Lesson
PDF Slides



Lesson
Printables

FOR LEADERS

A MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN'S LEADERS

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father...

Dear Sunday School Teachers,

Take a moment to read Matthew 3 and Mark 1:1–12. Who do you see yourself in? The eager crowds? The skeptical religious leaders? Or perhaps John the Baptist, who, despite not fully understanding the magnitude of what was unfolding, faithfully obeyed God's call to proclaim His message?

John understood one crucial thing: he had a role in God's greater plan. He preached repentance and prepared the way for the coming Messiah. And when Jesus finally arrived, John humbly stepped aside, knowing that the true power to change hearts and lives rested in Christ alone.

Picture the scene at the Jordan River when Jesus approached to be baptized. There must have been an electric anticipation in the crowd, as though they instinctively knew something monumental was about to happen. And then, in that profound moment of baptism, God Himself spoke, affirming Jesus' identity as His beloved Son. Only Jesus holds the power to touch hearts, to rescue us from darkness, and to bring transformation into our lives. His arrival changed everything.

This week, take time to reflect on how Jesus has transformed—and continues to transform—your life. How has He turned things upside down, corrected what was wrong, and brought the kingdom of God into your world? As you meditate on the wonder of that moment when Jesus stepped into history and forever altered your eternity, ask yourself how you, like John, can prepare the way for others to encounter Christ—especially the children in your care.

As Sunday School teachers and leaders, you have the unique opportunity to prepare young hearts to meet Jesus. Just as John the Baptist helped prepare the way for Christ, we are called to do the same. We can lay the foundation for children to recognize and accept Him as their Savior. Through your teaching, your example, and your love, you are helping to open their hearts to the transforming power of Jesus.

Jesus is the one who transforms lives, but we get to point the way. Embrace this role with humility and joy, knowing that every lesson you teach, every Bible story you share, and every prayer you offer is helping to prepare a path for children to encounter the living Christ, just as John did so long ago.

With love and joy,

The Faith Arc Team

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A ROAD MAP

WHO?

John the Baptist was the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth. He was filled with the Holy Spirit before he was born. He was a prophet—like Elijah—who prepared people for the Messiah and God's kingdom. He was eventually imprisoned and executed by Herod Antipas.



WHAT?

John preached in the Judean desert and baptized at the Jordan River. Many people came to repent and be baptized, including Jesus Himself. When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit came down on Him and a voice from heaven said, 'You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy.'



WHERE?

The Judean desert was between Jerusalem and the Jordan River. "This encounter took place in Bethany, an area east of the Jordan River, where John was baptizing." ([John 1:28](#)). This indicates the eastern bank of the river, slightly north of the northernmost tip of the Dead Sea.



WHEN?

Jesus was about 30 years old when He began His ministry ([Luke 3:23](#)). John baptized Jesus at the outset of this ministry, around AD 26–29. After Jesus' baptism, the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert, where He was tempted by the devil.



CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

Old Testament prophets like Joel looked forward to a day when God would give the Spirit freely to all people (see [Joel 2:28](#)). John baptized with water but spoke of Jesus as the One who would baptize with the Holy Spirit. It is through Jesus that God's Spirit is poured out! "Holy Sealing is the sacrament through which the believer, through the laying on of hands and the prayer of an Apostle, receives the gift of the Holy Spirit and becomes a child of God with the calling to become a firstling." (NAC Catechism 8.3)



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WELCOME QUESTION

SUPPLIES: paper, colored pencils, whiteboard (optional), dry-erase marker (optional)

Before kids arrive, display the **Baptism Welcome Question Slide**, or write the following question on a whiteboard: "Who are you? I am _____." Set out sheets of paper and coloring utensils.

As kids arrive, warmly welcome them by name and ask them to Check In.

All Ages

Always begin your class with a warm welcome and a social-emotional "check-in". Use the feelings chart and ask each child how they are feeling (refrain from asking "How are you?" as children may be accustomed to responding with "fine"). You may want to print and post the feelings chart in your classroom for ease of use.

- Allow each child to name their feeling or to use a color to name their feeling. Older children might use words, younger children might point to the pictures or use the colors to express their feelings.
- There are no wrong feelings and all feelings should be acknowledged.
- Acknowledge how children feel by giving each child time and space to share anything they might need or want to share in regard to their feelings. For example, you can ask "Why are you angry?" or "What made you sad?".
- If you can, address the feeling (hunger/thirst - provide a snack/drink, sadness - give a hug, joy - give a high five, tired - let the child rest, anger - a calming space, etc.).
- Keep in mind throughout the lesson how each child is feeling and that feelings may change during your time with the child.
- If you notice a change, you may want to allow the child to rename their feeling and again address the feeling if needed.
- Acknowledge all feelings, concerns, joys, and celebrations in your opening and closing prayer. Use a grace-based approach to the learning as feelings will impact how children learn. (adapted from the Zones of Regulation)

Show them the **Welcome Question**. Encourage kids to fill in the blank with their answers. Share a few of your own answers to help them get started: For example, you might be a daughter, sister, aunt, teacher, New Apostolic, Christian, and Jesus-follower. Encourage kids to come up with as many answers as they can, inviting them to illustrate their answers if they choose. If you have younger kids, be sure to read the question for them.

At your start time...

Welcome kids and tell them that you are excited to hear their answers to the Welcome Question. Call on several kids to share their answers: *Who are you? I am _____.*

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Lesson PPT Slides



Lesson PDF Slides



Lesson Printables

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL CHECK IN

Angry



Scared



Panicked



Inconsolable



Happy



Focused



Calm



Proud



Worried



Frustrated



Silly



Excited



Sad



Bored



Tired



Sick



There are many ways we can describe ourselves. But when we choose to follow Jesus, one thing about us becomes more important than all the others. Today in God's big story, we'll learn that Jesus is God's very own Son. And because of Him, we can become God's kids too! But, first, it's time to be curious.

Thanks for sharing how you see yourself! Today we're going to discover how sometimes when we see someone, that person shows us something about someone else. Confusing? It won't be when we discover how Jesus shows us what God is like. But, first, it's time to be curious.

OBJECT LESSON: PIECES OF ME

SUPPLIES: masking tape (prep only), permanent marker (prep only), clear disposable cups, clear shatter-proof jar or container with lid, pom-poms (5–10 per kid), table, **Pieces of Me Slide**, **Baptism Wonder Truth Slide**

Ahead of time, use masking tape and a permanent marker to label clear disposable cups with some common identity statements (one label per cup). Write phrases like "I am a friend," "I am a student," "I play sports," "I am an artist," "I am a musician," "I am an animal person," etc. Label the lidded jar with the phrase "I am God's kid."

Display the **Pieces of Me Slide**. Set all the labeled cups and the clear jar on a table and invite kids to gather around. Set the pom-poms nearby. **Today we're going to think about our identity. Our identity is who we are and who we belong to.** Hold up some pom-poms. **These pom-poms represent pieces of who you are and how you might describe yourself.** Read the labels on the cups and jar, and model the activity for the kids by placing a few pom-poms into the cups you identify with. Give about 5–10 pom-poms to each kid, and invite several kids at a time to come to the table and put pom-poms into the cup(s) they identify with the most. If your group is large, make multiple sets of labeled cups and set up more than one table. Remind kids they are God's kid so they all put a pom-pom in the clear jar.

Gather kids together once all the kids have used up their pom-poms. **Some of us put our identity into playing sports. What if one day we have a bad game, and we get discouraged?** Pick up the cup labeled "I play sports" and start shaking it so the pom-poms spill out. **Some of us put our identity into being a student. We love school, and that's great! But what if we don't understand something new we are learning and get discouraged?** Pick up the cup labeled "I am a student" and start shaking it so the pom-poms spill out.

Some of us put our identity into being a friend. Our friends are important to us, which is wonderful! But what if our closest friend moves away? Pick up the cup labeled "I am a friend" and shake it so the pom-poms spill out. Do this with each of the cups, talking out scenarios where kids' identities might get shaky

Teaching Tip:

For Older Kids:
Encourage kids to put multiple pom-poms into the cups that are more important to them. If a kid loves painting much more than sports, he can add three pom-poms to the "I am an artist" cup and only one to "I play sports."

Once you get to the “I am God’s kid” jar, screw the lid on the top. **When being God’s kid becomes the most important thing about who we are, we can be certain that no matter what happens to us, and no matter what we do, we will always be God’s kid. Nothing can separate us from God’s love.** As you talk about being God’s kids, shake the jar around and turn it upside down, demonstrating that the pom-poms will stay in no matter what.

Display the **Baptism Wonder Truth Slide**. Today we’re going to learn that God sent a man named **John the Baptist** to get the people ready to meet Jesus. As John baptized Jesus—dipping Him in water—Jesus’ identity became clear. Today’s Wonder Truth is: **JESUS IS GOD’S SON**. And when we follow Jesus, are baptized and sealed, we too become God’s kids!

Make It Inclusive: *If some kids in your group have limited mobility, invite an older kid to bring each jar to them. Or have all the kids sit in a circle and pass the jars around with kids placing their pom-poms in jars as they pass.*

DECLARING GOD’S WONDER

Display the **Baptism Declaration Slide**. Read each line boldly and invite kids to repeat after you.

Thank You, God, that You are good! (Kids repeat.)

You made me on purpose, for a purpose. (Kids repeat.)

And I am Your kid! (Kids repeat.)

You know me, love me, and lead me. (Kids repeat.)

You are a good Father. (Kids repeat.)

Thank you for sending Your Son Jesus to us! (Kids repeat.)

My life can tell of Your wonder! (Kids repeat.)

OPENING PRAYER

Before entering into God’s big story, lead kids in an opening prayer. Use the prayer here or your own words: **Heavenly Father, thank You for speaking to us through Your big story. We ask that Your Holy Spirit helps us understand how amazing Jesus, Your Son, is. Help us know that because Jesus came to us, we can be part of Your family. Thank You for loving us and making us Your very own kids. In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

GOD’S BIG STORY

This lesson includes three opportunities for your kids to enter the story – we recommend you choose **HEAR IT!** or **EXPERIENCE IT!** and supplement with the **WATCH IT!** video. **HEAR IT!** is read directly from the Bible. **EXPERIENCE IT!** is an interactive story-telling activity.

Hear It!

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

Display the **Baptism Title Slide**. Encourage kids to open their Bibles to [Mark 1](#). Remind them it is in the New Testament, toward the back of their Bibles. Mark is one of the four Gospels—books that tell the story of Jesus from different people’s perspectives.

Let’s start by reading part of God’s big story directly from the Bible. Afterward, we will watch and experience more of the story! Ask for four volunteers to read [Mark 1:1–11](#) aloud. Assign the first reader to read [Mark 1:1–3](#), the second to read verses [4–5](#), the third to read verses [6–8](#), and the fourth to read verses [9–11](#). If you have mostly younger kids in your group, consider reading the passage aloud yourself or inviting a couple of adult leaders to read while the kids follow along.

Watch It!

Watch the [Jesus’ Baptism God’s Big Story!](#)

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Lesson PPT Slides



Lesson PDF Slides



Lesson Printables

Experience It!

SUPPLIES: scissors (prep only), sandwich-size resealable bags (1 per kid), paper (10 sheets, 8½" x 11"), tape, cardstock (1 sheet per kid, optional), bins or baskets (optional), whiteboard (optional), **Story Cards Sheet** (1 per kid), **Story Cards Slides**

Ahead of time, print the **Story Cards Sheet**, one per kid, on cardstock if available. Cut the cards, shuffle each set, and place one set of cards in each resealable bag. You may wish to place the prepared bags in bins or baskets to make distribution easier. Prepare to display the Story Cards Slides. Print the slides onto 8½" x 11" paper to create an oversized set of cards for the leader telling the story. Print an extra copy of the father/son slide.

Today we have an exciting challenge! In these bags are pictures that go along with today's part of God's big story. Hold up a resealable bag. As I tell the story, your job is to listen carefully to see if you can guess what picture comes next. Then in the end, we will see if our pictures are in the right order. Let's give it a shot!

Hand one resealable bag to each kid. Encourage kids to spread out so they have floor space around them. Invite kids to open their bags and spread their cards out on the floor in front of them, with the images facing up. (Challenge older kids to look at their Story Cards and try to guess what part of God's big story you are exploring today. Then challenge them to put the cards in the correct order before they hear the story!)

As I tell the story, let's work together to put the pictures in order. As Jesus grew up, He became stronger and wiser. Through all the twists and turns of childhood, He came to understand that He had a special relationship with God. God is His Father, and Jesus needed to do what His Father wanted Him to do.

Are there any father pictures in your cards? Kids respond. Nice! Let's put the picture of a father and son first to remind us that God is Jesus' Father. Tape the 8½" x 11" printout of the father/son picture to the wall or whiteboard where the kids can see it. (Consider inviting a couple of older kids to help find the right pictures and tape them up in order as the story progresses.) Display the first of the Story Cards Slides, which shows a father and son. Encourage kids to set their father/son card in front of them.

Jesus was ready for His gigantic part in God's big story, but was the world ready for Jesus? Well, God worked through a man named John the Baptist to get people ready. With the help of God's Spirit, John went to the dusty desert to preach to whoever would listen.

A desert? That's one of our cards! Let's put that next in our storytelling order. Tape the printout of the desert picture next to the father/son picture. Display the second Story Card Slide, which shows a desert. Encourage kids to set their desert card next to the father/son card.

John began preaching the message: "Turn away from your sins! The kingdom of heaven has come near" ([Matthew 3:2](#)). Could it be true? Was God's kingdom coming?

John lived differently than most people. He ate wild honey and crunchy grasshoppers called locusts. Is there a card that matches what John ate? Awesome! Let's put that in order. Tape the printout of the honey and locusts next to the desert picture. Display the next slide, which shows honey and locusts. Encourage kids to set their honey and locusts card next to the desert card.

Teaching Tip:

As the lesson continues, kids will catch on and most likely shout out when they recognize a picture that matches the story. Consider using the kids' responses as your cue to pause and add the next card to the wall.

Not only did John eat different food; he wore different clothes too! His clothes were made from camel's hair, and he wore a leather belt. Is there a picture that matches John's look? Yes! Let's put that in order. Tape the printout of the leather belt next to the honey and locusts picture. Display the next slide, which shows a leather belt. Encourage kids to set their leather belt card next to the desert card.

John ate different food and wore different clothes. He dressed like Elijah the prophet. Could John be a prophet too? Some people thought he was. Hundreds of years before, the prophet Isaiah had spoken about John: "A messenger is calling out in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight paths for him'" ([Matthew 3:3](#); see also [Isaiah 40:3](#)). John was getting people ready for the Lord—ready for Jesus!

People from Jerusalem and the surrounding area came to John to confess their sins. They wanted to turn away from the wrong things they had been doing and start following God instead. John baptized them in the Jordan River. Do you see a card that shows a river? Great! Let's put that in order. Tape the printout of the river next to the leather belt picture. Display the next slide, which shows a river. Encourage kids to set their river card next to the leather belt card.

John baptized people in the Jordan River by dipping them under the water. It was like washing off the old yuckiness of sin to make them ready for something new—something better. Lots of people came to listen to John and be baptized in the river.

Even some of the Pharisees and Sadducees came to the river. These religious leaders thought very highly of themselves. They knew how to look and sound like they loved God, but John wasn't fooled. "You are like a nest of poisonous snakes!" John exclaimed ([Matthew 3:7](#)). Do you see a snake? Let's put that picture in order! Tape the printout of the snake next to the river picture. Display the next slide, which shows a snake. Encourage kids to set their snake card next to the river card.

John called the religious leaders snakes! He wanted them to know that following God isn't like putting on a costume. It requires a change of heart. "Live in a way that shows you have turned away from your sins," he told them ([Matthew 3:8](#)).

John also spoke about Jesus. "After me, there is someone coming who is more powerful than I am. I'm not good enough to bend down and untie his sandals" ([Mark 1:7](#)). Do you see a picture of sandals? Let's put that picture next. Tape the printout of the sandals next to the snakes picture. Display the next slide, which shows sandals. Encourage kids to set their sandals card next to the snakes card.

John was saying that Jesus is so much more powerful and amazing than him. Jesus is so great that John wasn't even worthy to help Jesus take off His shoes! John said to the people, "I baptize you with water. But he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit" ([Mark 1:8](#)). The Spirit would change people's hearts permanently and make them ready for God's kingdom. But how could Jesus baptize people with God's Spirit? Who could do such a thing?

Then, Jesus Himself showed up. Jesus wanted to be baptized, "but John tried to stop him" ([Matthew 3:14](#)). Why would Jesus want to be baptized? He hadn't done wrong things like all the other people. But Jesus said, "Let it be this way for now. It is right for us to do this. It carries out God's holy plan" ([Matthew 3:15](#)). So John baptized Jesus in the Jordan River.

"As soon as Jesus was baptized, He came up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened. Jesus saw the Spirit of God coming down on Him like a dove" ([Matthew 3:16](#)). Do you see a dove? Let's put that card next. Tape the printout of the dove next to the sandals picture. Display the next slide, which shows a dove. Encourage kids to set their dove card next to the sandals card.

"A voice from heaven said, 'This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy.'" ([Matthew 3:17](#)). The kingdom of God was arriving, and it all started with Jesus. Tape the second printout of the

ELEMENTARY

father/son next to the dove picture. Display the next slide, which shows a father and son. Encourage kids to take their first card—the picture of the father and son—and move it to the end of their line of cards.

Advance to the last slide, which shows all eight images in order. **Your cards should look like this.** Point to the images on the screen. **This is the story of Jesus' baptism. Who is Jesus? Why is He able to make wrong things right and rescue people from evil and darkness? How is He powerful enough to pour out God's Spirit and change people's hearts? Only one person could do that: the Son of God. And that's exactly who Jesus is.** Point to the last picture on the slide and the last card taped to the wall or whiteboard. **Jesus is God's Son!**

Can you say this with me: Jesus is God's Son! Kids repeat.

Encourage kids to gather their story cards back into their bags so they can tell the story to their families, maybe even challenging the adults in their family to guess what the story is and sequence the cards correctly!

CONNECTING THE WONDER TRUTH

Display the **Baptism Wonder Truth Slide**. Pose the following question to kids to help them connect the Wonder Truth to God's big story:

Our Wonder Truth today is JESUS IS GOD'S SON. Where did you see our Wonder Truth in the story?
Allow kids to answer freely.

Prophets in the Old Testament looked forward to a day when God would give His Spirit freely to all people (see [Joel 2:28](#)). **John the Baptist said that someone was coming who would baptize with the Holy Spirit. The Old Testament prophets and John were talking about Jesus! Through Jesus, God pours out His Spirit on all His people!**

When someone is baptized it means they want to turn away from sin and they believe Jesus is God's Son and that they want to follow Him. When someone is baptized as a baby, the baby's parents do everything they can to teach their child about Jesus and to help their child, as they grow, to follow Jesus. Baptism is the first step to becoming God's child and prepares us for Holy Sealing.

In the New Apostolic Church, people are usually baptized in front of the altar (not in a river) and in front of the congregation. A priest will perform the baptism and use consecrated (blessed) water. The priest will dip his finger in the water and make the sign of the cross on the person's forehead, declaring the baptism is done in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Does anyone remember their baptism? Let children share and if none of them remember ask the following: Ask your parents about your baptism and what it meant to them.

ELEMENTARY

Divide your group into smaller groups based on age. If your group is already small, stay together for this time.

QUESTIONS: YOUNGER KIDS

- How was John the Baptist different from most people?
- Why were people coming to John to be baptized, or dipped in water?
- John baptized with water, but what does John say Jesus will baptize with?
- When John baptized Jesus, what did Jesus see? Whose voice was heard? What did the voice say?
- Jesus is God's Son! When we follow Him, are baptized and sealed, we become God's kids too! What is one way you can remind yourself this week that you are God's kid?

God loves us and sent Jesus, His very own Son, to live and die and rise again so the wrong things we do can be forgiven. Because of Jesus—God's Son—we can be God's kids too! No matter what happens this week, we can know that God loves us. Let's praise God for His love and ask Him to help us as we follow Him this week.

PRAYER TIME: YOUNGER KIDS

Invite kids to share things they want to praise God for. What is He doing in their lives? Then invite them to share prayer requests. What do they need God's help with as they follow Jesus? Pray for each kid by name and invite anyone who would like to close in prayer to do so.

Make it Inclusive: *Incorporating simple physical gestures into your prayer time is an easy way to involve every kid, including those who are nonverbal or less comfortable sharing out loud. Invite kids to point up as they think quietly about one thing they praise God for. Then invite them to put a hand over their hearts as they think about one way they want God to help them.*

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QUESTIONS: OLDER KIDS

- What was John the Baptist's message to the people? How did people respond to his message?
- What happened as soon as Jesus was baptized? How does this event reveal who God is?
- How do you know Jesus is different from any other man who has ever lived—or who ever will?
- When and how have you seen Jesus' power in your life?
- Jesus is God's Son! When we follow Him, are baptized and sealed, we become God's kids too! What is one way you can remind yourself this week that you are God's kid?

God cares so much for us that He sent Jesus, His very own Son, to us. This week, we can remember that by sending His Son Jesus, God made the way for us to be His kids. When we follow Jesus, we too become God's kids forever! God loves us, and nothing can change that fact! Let's pray and ask God to help us remember that this week as we follow Him.

PRAYER TIME: OLDER KIDS

Invite kids to share prayer requests. How can they grow in confidence as God's kids? Then invite them to share praises. How is God working in their lives? Ask a few volunteers to pray aloud for the praises and requests, or have kids pair off and pray together. Close by thanking God for sending His Son to us.

Make it Inclusive: *Incorporating simple physical gestures into your prayer time is an easy way to involve every kid, including those who are nonverbal or less comfortable sharing out loud. Invite kids to point up as they think quietly about one thing they praise God for. Then invite them to put a hand over their hearts as they think about one way they want God to help them.*

John the Baptist knew that Jesus was the one who would transform lives and baptize with the Spirit. John never became jealous of Jesus (which means he didn't want people to like Jesus more than him) rather John told the people that Jesus was greater than him and that Jesus would change their lives. The Eighth Commandment reminds us to never speak falsely or poorly about others. Let's say it together: "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor." Use choral response to say this commandment and ask if anyone would like to repeat it on their own. Do not force anyone to say it on their own but remind them how happy you are they are part of your group. Ask the kids if anyone has ever spoken poorly about them, and ask how it made them feel. Allow kids to share their answers. **This is why God gave us this commandment, so that we don't hurt anyone with our words.**

RESPONDING IN WORSHIP: PRAISE SONGWRITING

SUPPLIES: coloring utensils, pencils, **Responding in Worship Slide**, **Praise Songwriting Sheet** (1 per kid), [Who Is Jesus? Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Ahead of time, print a copy of the **Praise Songwriting Sheet** for each kid.

Display the **Responding in Worship Slide**. In this activity, kids will write phrases of praise to God and create a worship song based on what they explored and learned about Jesus in God's big story today.

Hand a **Praise Songwriting Sheet** to each kid and set out coloring utensils and pencils. Help kids form small groups or pairs. Then invite kids to work together to write out phrases on their **Praise Songwriting Sheets** that praise Jesus for who He is. The phrases don't have to rhyme or be set to music. Kids can simply focus on worshiping God by writing simple words that express how they feel about Him. Let them know that in the end all the words they write will create an original praise song! Play music from the [Who Is Jesus? Elementary Spotify playlist](#) softly in the background while the kids create.

The **Praise Songwriting Sheet** includes the following three prompts. Read them aloud slowly as kids write their ideas on their pages:

- What amazes you about Jesus?
- What can you thank God for today?
- God, I love You because You _____.

After the kids spend a few minutes working together to write phrases of praise, ask a few volunteers to share their new praise songs with the group. If time allows, invite kids to illustrate their songs in the space at the bottom of the **Praise Songwriting Sheets** or to try singing their new songs to an original or familiar tune.

Disclaimer: We have permission from the publisher to use the Spotify music playlist solely for the purposes of the Sunday School hour, Vacation Bible School experiences, fellowship events, or for listening at home. Please note that this playlist is not to be used during the divine service or for any streamed or broadcasted occasion.

Teaching Tips:

For Younger Kids: Gather younger kids and give them verbal prompts. Write down their responses and then read the song back to them. Give a Praise Songwriting Sheet to each kid and invite them to draw a picture at the bottom to illustrate the group's song. Encourage kids to sing the words of the song, putting it to any tune they like!

JESUS' BAPTISM

LESSON 2

NAC USA
Goals and Objectives
[IA 3-5, 7-9, 13-15, 17-19, 27-29](#) [IB 1, 3, 5](#) [IC 1-13](#)
[IE 1-3](#) [IIA 3, 6, 10](#)
[IIIA 1-3](#)

WONDER TRUTH:

Jesus Is God's Son

SCRIPTURE:

[Mark 1; Matthew 3](#)

GOD'S BIG STORY:

John the Baptist prepares the way for Jesus by encouraging people to repent and be baptized. At Jesus' baptism, God reveals that Jesus is His own Son.

WORD OF WONDER:

[Colossians 1:15](#)

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation...



Lesson PPT Slides



Lesson PDF Slides



Lesson Printables

BLESSING YOUR KIDS

Display the **Baptism Blessing Slide**. Speak this blessing over your kids, as a group or as individuals. If you bless kids individually, insert each name into the blessing.

Blessing: May God bless you this week as you remember that He is a good Father. Remember this: Jesus is God's Son, and we are God's kids. God loves you so much, and nothing will ever change that!