

Week 32 Parent Sheet: John Baptizes Jesus

Matthew 3:13-17 NIV

Jesus, in being baptized, showed His willingness to begin His ministry and complete His mission!

Bethlehem Family Childcare – Wednesdays: Story Time (9:30-10:00) and Bible Time (10:00-10:30)

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Many Events of Jesus' Life in Chronological Order:

- Born (5 BC)
- Named – when 8 days old
- Presented at the Temple – when 40 days old
- Visited by Wise Men – when 2 months old
- Fled to Egypt – when 2 months old
- Returned to live in Nazareth – when 1 year old
- His parents thought He was lost – when 12 years old
- **Baptized by John – when 30 years old**
- Some important events of His three-year ministry:
 - ♦ Tempted in the wilderness
 - ♦ Moved from Nazareth to Capernaum
 - ♦ Called His disciples
 - ♦ Preached the Sermon on the Mount
 - ♦ Performed many miracles
 - ♦ Sent out His disciples to heal and teach
 - ♦ Warned about persecution
 - ♦ Told many parables
 - ♦ Heard of the death of John the Baptist
 - ♦ More miracles and teaching
 - ♦ Transfigured, Moses and Elijah appeared with Him
 - ♦ More miracles and teaching
 - ♦ Welcomed into Jerusalem – on Palm Sunday
 - ♦ Taught many things – on Holy Tuesday
 - ♦ Instituted the Lord's Supper – on Holy Thursday
 - ♦ Arrested, tried, crucified, and died – on Good Friday
 - ♦ Raised to life – on the third day, Easter Sunday
 - ♦ Ascended into heaven – 40 days after Easter

Previous history:

1. In the fullness of time, God sent His Son into the world to live and die to remove all sins.
2. In order to identify His Son to others, God sent an angel to communicate with Mary and Joseph, sent shepherds from outside of Bethlehem to visit on the day of His birth, sent wise men from afar with special gifts, and spoke at Jesus' baptism to identify Him as His beloved Son!

Baptism:

1. What is baptism? 2 things: God's Word and water.
2. What are the benefits of baptism? Forgiveness of sins, spiritual life, and eternal salvation.
3. Who is taking action? God the Father, by the Holy Spirit, through the water and the Word.
4. What action is being taken? Regarding the person being baptized, God is clothing him with Jesus and

gifting him with the benefits of His finished work – thus forgiveness, life, and salvation!

5. When should a person be baptized? As soon as possible, since God is freely giving important and precious blessings!
6. Can an infant receive without understanding? Yes. If I put money into an infant's bank account, he wouldn't understand but, nonetheless, the money would still be his.
7. Why was Jesus baptized when He was 30 years old? God had just recently instituted baptism when He sent John – just ahead of Jesus – to begin baptizing.
8. Since baptism is for forgiveness and Jesus had no sin, why was He baptized? By being baptized, He expressed His willingness to pay for all sins; then, on His cross, He literally received all sins and God's punishment for all sins.

John Baptizes Jesus:

1. Jesus comes to be baptized – to officially accept His mission to save us from our sins: ¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.
2. John knew that Jesus was without sin: ¹⁴ But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.
3. Notice that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit were all present: ¹⁶ As soon as Jesus [God the Son] was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God [God the Holy Spirit] descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven [God the Father] said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Thought:

1. Baptism is very important: ^{NIV} **Titus 3:5** [God the Father] saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.
2. Need baptism? *Contact the pastor of Bethlehem!*