

John the Baptist

Mark 1:1-11



John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, the Messiah, to begin his ministry. John baptized people with water and encouraged everyone to change their ways and repent of their sins. John focused the glory on Jesus, saying that someone greater was coming. When Jesus arrived, John baptized him, and the Holy Spirit descended, calling Jesus God's Son.

Take a Look

Here are some of the people and things in today's story. What can your child tell you about them?



John the Baptist was a prophet living in the wilderness. People from around Jerusalem came to him to repent of their sins and be baptized.



Jesus asked John to baptize him. When John did, God tore open the heavens, sent the Spirit down, and proclaimed Jesus "my Son."



Baptism means "to immerse." Jesus' death and resurrection transformed the significance of baptism for Christians and it quickly became an important ritual.

About the Video

John the Baptist was a wild guy who caused quite a ruckus in the wilderness. He was baptizing, encouraging people to repent, and telling people to get ready for Jesus, who had an even greater plan for the people.

- What's unique about John the Baptist?
- What happened when Jesus was baptized?
- How does your church celebrate baptism?

Try This!

Remember baptism, and bless each other. Dip your finger in a bowl of water, and draw a cross on another's forehead, saying, "You are a child of God."

Prayer

Dear God, you use all kinds of people to spread your message of love. Thank you for sending John to prepare the world for Jesus. Use us to spread the message of love, too. Amen!