



Jesus Is Baptized

Lesson Aim: To study the relationship between God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who is With Us

THE WORD

Bible Story: Mark 1:1-11

What He has done: God told Jesus He loved Him and was pleased with Him.

Key Verse: Mark 1:11

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Isaiah 11:2

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

Unit 1: The King Who is With Us			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
1	Jesus and His Father's House, Luke 2:41-52	God came to earth and grew up as a boy of faith.	To challenge children to make choices as Jesus did in his youth.
2	Jesus Is Baptized, Mark 1:1-11	God told Jesus He loved Him and was pleased with Him.	To study the relationship between God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
3	Jesus Is Tempted, Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus resisted temptation and battled Satan using God's Word.	To study the three kinds of temptations we most often face.
4	Jesus Calls His Disciples, Luke 5:1-11	Jesus called regular people to follow Him.	To know Jesus calls ordinary people and does extraordinary things through them.
5	Jesus Clears the Temple, Mark 11:15-17	Jesus cleared the temple.	To challenge children to treat God's house and their own life as special and holy to God.
6	Jesus Is Transfigured, Matthew 17:1-9	Jesus' appearance changed and He spoke to Moses and Elijah.	To know Jesus is both God and man, and the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Galatians 3:26-28. Please join us in praying, "Thank you for speaking to us about Your Son. Thank you for Your love and approval. Amen."

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**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Underwater	One rope
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "The Word Became Flesh" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Chosen People" "Do Justly" "Follow Me" "Think About These Things" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "Father, We Adore You" "Take My Life and Let It Be" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Absolute All Time Favorites For Kids Cedarmont Worship for Kids: Volume 2
		Worship Scripture Reading: Psalm 136:26	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 2 Kingdom Adventures script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Mark 1:1-11	Map—Jordan River near Bethany, Israel, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discuss the Word	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: Isaiah 11:2	
		Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
THE WAY	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Part of a leather sandal tie, W ³ s, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "The Word Became Flesh," CD player
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Part of a leather sandal tie, W ³ s, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "The Word Became Flesh," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Dove Snacks	Dove brand chocolates, dove-shaped candy, or cookies with a dove outline in icing
	Up to 10	Game: Order the Story	Two sets of seven note cards, two leather ties
	Up to 10	Craft: Three-in-One Mobile	White paper, cotton ball, yarn or string, 12-inch stick, scissors, hole punch, glue, markers
	Up to 10	Discussion: The Trinity Mystery	None
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: The Wave	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Find the Verse Race	Four Bibles, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster, four pieces of different colored paper, marker
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Timeline

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: What is your favorite kind of bird?

GAME: UNDERWATER

Purpose: To use a version of the limbo game to introduce the story of Jesus' baptism.

Supplies: One rope

Today, we will discover what happened after Jesus grew up. Before He began to teach and to heal, He was baptized. Who knows what baptism is? (Baptism is the act of being sprinkled with water or dipped underwater as an outward sign of belonging to Jesus. It stands for the forgiveness and cleansing of sin that comes with faith in Jesus.) **Jesus did not have any sins, but He was baptized to show He was in a special relationship with God the heavenly Father. We will learn more about that in a few minutes. First, let's play a game. You are going to "dip underwater" by going under the rope. Each time you do, think about how Jesus went underwater and came back up when He was baptized.**

Directions:

1. Have two children hold the rope at waist level. Have the other children line up facing the rope.
2. Tell the players the rope stands for the top of the water in the river. They must "swim" underwater to the other side. Encourage them to be creative in how they swim. Children might pretend to do a backstroke or doggie paddle. Each player then goes to the end of the line.
3. Each time the last child in line goes under the rope, lower the rope a few inches.
4. The goal is to see how low the rope can go before children are no longer able to "swim" under it.



Jesus as the King who is with us

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.



Today, we worship the God who is with us as three-in-one. He is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This three-in-one God loves you very much. His love endures forever, which means His love for you will never end. Read

Worship Scripture: Psalm 136:26.

God the Father loves the world so much He gave His Son, Jesus. God the Son loves us so much He gave His life for us. God the Holy Spirit stays in the hearts of believers to help us know God's love and share it with others.



Sing Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song, "The Word Became Flesh." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God's love or on His nature as a three-in-one God.

Let's sing our praise to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as we give Him our offering. Let's tell God how much we love Him. Sing: "Father, We Adore You" as offering is collected.



Perform Kingdom Adventures script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 2.



God the Father loves His Son

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we learned when Jesus was twelve years old, His parents couldn't find Him after a trip to Jerusalem. Where did they finally find Jesus? (In the temple talking with the teachers.) After Jesus grew up, He went to the Jordan River to be baptized. Point to the Jordan River, near Bethany, Israel on map if available.



If you brought your Bible, open it now and share with others. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Mark 1:1-11. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Mark 1:11.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to His Word today. Who'd like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. Be seated.

Jesus' cousin, John, baptized Him. Baptism is a holy time when we are sprinkled or dipped underwater as a special sign to show everyone we belong to God. Let's find out exactly what happened when Jesus was baptized. Read Mark 1:1-11.



God as the Trinity

THE WAY

To get their hearts ready for the coming of Jesus, John preached and baptized people in the Jordan River. John told them that Jesus was so powerful that he was not even important enough to untie Jesus' sandals. Right before Jesus began His ministry to the people, John baptized Jesus. That means John helped Jesus go under the water as a sign that Jesus belonged to God and would obey God.

When Jesus came out of the water what did God's voice from heaven say? ("You are my Son, Whom I love; with You I am well pleased.") **How do you think Jesus felt to hear His Father say that?** (Children respond.) **How would seeing and hearing this help John the Baptist in his preaching to others about Jesus?** (It gave him proof that Jesus is the Son of God.)

One of the greatest mysteries about God is that He is the Trinity which means three-in-one. He is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. All three have separate actions in this story. What does God the Father do in the story? (He tears open the heavens and speaks about His Son.) **What does God the Son do in this story?** (Jesus is baptized and comes out of the water.) **What does God the Holy Spirit do in this story?** (The Holy Spirit descends on Jesus like a dove.)

The Trinity is a mystery that no one can completely explain. God the Father gave His Son, Jesus. God the Son gave His life to save us. God the Holy Spirit lives in the hearts of those who believe in Jesus to guide them in living each day for Jesus. What are some things you love about God as the Father, God as the Son, and God as the Holy Spirit? (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Let's see how Isaiah described the Spirit of the Lord 700 years before He came like a dove to rest on Jesus. In this verse, Isaiah talks about Jesus as the Branch.



FIND IT FIRST> Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Isaiah 11:2. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Isaiah 11:2.

Who does Isaiah say the Holy Spirit will rest upon? (The Branch, which is Jesus.) **In what way does Isaiah say the Holy Spirit will help Jesus?** (In wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, and knowledge.) **The Holy Spirit helps believers in the same ways. He helps believers be wise and understanding. He helps us make wise plans and follow them. He helps us know and respect the Lord. In what way do you need the Holy Spirit's help this week?** (Children respond.)

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is part of a leather sandal tie. John said he was not worthy to untie Jesus' sandals. Use it as a bookmark to remember how John understood Jesus was God's Son who came to save us.

W³: Take home today's W³ Journal Entry #2 as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together at home in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W³ Journal Entry #2. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of John baptizing Jesus in the Jordan River. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: DOVE SNACKS

Purpose: To connect personally with the children while enjoying a snack that reminds them of how God the Father showed His love for God the Son.

Snack Suggestion: Dove brand chocolates, dove-shaped candy, or cookies with a dove outline in icing

Option: If a dove themed snack is not available, offer children a fluffy marshmallow snack to represent the clouds of heaven that tore open when God, the Father spoke from heaven.

Today, we discovered what happened when Jesus was baptized. God showed He loved Jesus by sending the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove. Let's eat a dove-shaped snack to remind us what God did that day.

Directions:

1. Serve the snack and drink.
2. Ask a child to pray and thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"What is the best way someone has shown they love you?"**

GAME: ORDER THE STORY

Purpose: To remember the order of events of Jesus' baptism.

Supplies: Two sets of seven note cards, two leather ties

Prepare: To create a set of story cards, print or draw one event on each of seven note cards. Create two sets. Mix the cards in each set and stack them. Tie them with a leather tie.

Story Cards

God sent John to prepare the people for the Lord's coming.

John said he was not worthy to untie Jesus' sandals.

Jesus came to the Jordan River.

John baptized Jesus.

The heavens tore open.

God said, "You are my Son, Whom I love; with You I am well pleased."

The Spirit descended like a dove.

Many important events happened in today's story. Let's see which team will be the first to untie the sandal strap and put the story cards in the correct order.

Directions:

1. Divide the children into two teams.
2. Each team works together to untie its story cards and place them in the correct order.
3. Each team reties the ordered story cards and gives them to the teacher.
4. Teacher checks the order. If incorrect, the story cards are returned for correct ordering.
5. The first team to deliver a tied set of cards in the correct order is the winner.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: THREE-IN-ONE MOBILE

Purpose: To help children remember God's relationships with Himself and us.

Supplies: White paper, cotton ball, yarn or string, 12-inch stick, scissors, hole punch, glue, markers

Prepare: Draw or print and cut out a few sets of 4-inch templates of a cloud, a cross and a dove. Cut four twelve-inch pieces of yarn for each child.

Today, we discovered when John the Baptist baptized Jesus, the heavens tore open and God's voice was heard. God the Father sent His Spirit, like a dove, to Jesus. What did God the Father say about Jesus? (Jesus is His Son, He loved Jesus, He was pleased with Jesus.) **God the Father and His Son, Jesus, love each other. God loves each of you very much. Let's make a three-in-one mobile to remember our three-in-one God. From this mobile, we will hang a cloud which stands for God the Father in heaven, a cross which stands for God the Son, and a dove which stands for God the Holy Spirit.**

Directions:

1. Use a template to trace and cut out a 4-inch cloud shape from white paper.
2. Stretch out cotton ball and use glue to cover paper cloud with cotton.
3. Use a template to trace and cut out a 4-inch cross shape from the white paper.
4. Use a template to trace and cut out a 4-inch dove shape from white paper.
5. Draw eyes and a beak on each dove.
6. Tie three pieces of yarn to hang down from the stick, one on each end and one in the middle.
7. Punch a hole in the top of cloud, cross and dove.
8. Gently tie cloud, cross, and dove to the end of the yarn pieces hanging from the stick.
9. Tie the fourth piece of yarn to the center of the stick. At home, use that fourth piece of yarn to hang your mobile from a ceiling or wall.

DISCUSSION: THE TRINITY MYSTERY

Purpose: This discussion encourages children to consider God's triune nature. It can be led as the children create a craft, eat their snack, or color their offerings of art.

Supplies: None

Teacher Tip: For further reading on Jesus' description of the roles of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, read His prayer in John 16:5-16.

What is the Trinity? (Children respond.) **The Trinity is the three-in-one God whom we know as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. No human can understand everything about the Trinity. It is a mystery only fully understood by God Himself. Let's talk about some familiar examples that may help you better understand what it means to be three-in-one.**

God made people in His own image, so thinking of a person may help us understand the Trinity. One man can be known as a father, a son, and as someone's friend or guide. In what way is our three-in-one God like a man? (The Father, Son and Holy Spirit each have different roles, but all three are God.)

Water comes in three forms: liquid, solid (ice), and gas (steam). All three have different qualities, but all three are a form of water. In what way is our three-in-one God like water? (The Father, Son and Holy Spirit each have different qualities, but are all the same God.)

An apple has three parts: the skin, the flesh, and the core. All three parts are apple. Each part has a different purpose. In what way is our three-in-one God like the apple? (The Father, Son and Holy Spirit each have different roles, but all three are God.)

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

GAME: THE WAVE

Purpose: Children memorize the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse: John 1:14.

Supplies: Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Let's read our Bible Memory Verse and talk about its meaning. Children read John 1:14 using Bibles or a Bible Memory Verse Poster. **Another name for Jesus is "the Word."** "The Word became flesh" means Jesus who is God became human while He was still fully God. He "made His dwelling among us" means Jesus lived on earth with regular people like us. "We have seen His glory" means we have seen His greatness; greatness only God has. God is full of grace and truth. Now let's say our Bible Memory Verse in a wave!

Directions:

1. Assign one phrase from John 1:14 to each child or group.
2. As helper directs, each child/group quickly stands, says assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky, then down to thighs and sits down.
3. Repeat three times going faster each time.

GAME: FIND THE VERSE RACE

Purpose: Use this game to introduce, discuss and memorize the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Four Bibles, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster, four pieces of different colored paper, marker

Prepare: Write **John 1:14** on each sheet of colored paper. Hide the sheets around the room. Place four Bibles in the center of the room.

Directions:

1. Divide the class into four teams and assign one of the paper colors to each team.
2. On your signal, the teams are to search the room to find the paper color assigned to their team.
3. As soon as a team finds its paper, that team must get a Bible from the center of the room, find the verse and read it aloud. The goal is to be the first team to read the verse aloud.
4. Hold up the Bible Memory Verse poster and have the class repeat the verse together with you.
5. Finish this activity by saying the verse together as a class.

Who is "The Word"? (Jesus.) **Why do you think Jesus is called "The Word"?** (Children respond.)
Jesus speaks God's words because He is God's Son. God the Father sent Jesus to help us know and be close to Him.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Kings & Kingdoms Part One studies the life of Jesus (Circa 0-33 A.D.) beginning with the only story of His childhood and then focusing on His relationships, His ministry, His teachings, and the events surrounding His death, resurrection, and ascension. It concludes with a study of His kingdom parables. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Jesus on Earth (Circa 0-33 A.D.) A.D. stands for **Anno Domini**, which means “the Year of our Lord.” A.D. begins with Jesus’ birth and continues until the end of time. Everything written in Genesis-Malachi led up to the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. His birth was announced by angels to Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. It was celebrated by a visit of the Magi. In this miracle, God gave His only Son, Jesus, so that whoever believes in Him will have life forever close with God. What is your favorite part of the story of the birth of Jesus?

Jesus and His Father’s House (Circa 12 A.D.) What was Jesus doing when Mary and Joseph found Him in the temple? (He was listening to the teachers and asking them questions.) In what four ways does the Bible say Jesus grew? (He grew in wisdom, stature, favor with God, and favor with men.)

Jesus is Baptized (Circa 30 A.D.) Who baptized Jesus? (His cousin, John the Baptist.) What did God the Father say when Jesus came out of the water? (“You are my Son, Whom I love; with You I am well pleased.”) What did the Holy Spirit do? (He descended like a dove and rested on Jesus.)

How to create a Bible Timeline for the Life of Jesus:

1. Print each footprint on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the footprint for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Children can follow in Jesus’ footsteps as they review past lessons.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated footprint.

Life of Jesus: Jesus and His Father's House > Jesus Is Baptized > Jesus Is Tempted > Jesus Calls His Disciples > Jesus Clears the Temple > Jesus Is Transfigured > Jesus Teaches the Beatitudes > Jesus and Nicodemus > Jesus and the Woman at the Well > Jesus with Mary and Martha > Jesus and Zacchaeus > Jesus Is Anointed > The Triumphal Entry > Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet > Jesus and the Last Supper > Jesus in the Garden > Jesus and the Cross > Jesus Is Risen > The Road to Emmaus > Jesus Talks with Peter > The Great Commission > The King Ascends

Kingdom Parables: The Lost Sheep > The Sower > The Vine and the Branches > The Workers in the Vineyard > The Great Banquet > The Rich Fool > The Talents > Lazarus and the Rich Man > The Lost Son > The Good Samaritan