



# Jesus Is Baptized

Lesson Aim: To know God loves us.

## 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.

## THE WAY

**Bible Memory Verse:** "Children, obey your parents." Ephesians 6:1

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 know God wants us to be in His house.
2	Jesus Is Baptized, Mark 1:1-11	God told Jesus He loved Him and was pleased with Him.	To know God loves us.
3	Jesus Is Tempted, Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus resisted temptation and answered Satan with scripture.	To know Jesus wants us to do what is right.
4	Jesus Calls His Disciples, Luke 5:1-11	Jesus called regular people to follow Him.	To know Jesus calls each of us.
5	Jesus Clears the Temple, Mark 11:15-17	Jesus cleared the temple.	To know God's house is holy.
6	Jesus Is Transfigured, Matthew 17:1-8	Jesus' face shone like the sun and God said to listen to Him.	To know God wants us to listen to Him.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Galatians 3:26-28. Please join us in praying, "Thank You for speaking to us about Your Son. Fill us with Your Spirit that the children might sense Your love and Your approval. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

**Baptism:** Today's lesson introduces the concept of baptism. When sharing the story, explain to the children that being baptized means to be carefully dipped under the water and brought back up again. It is a special way to show you love God.



**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Welcome</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a heart
		<b>Coloring Center:</b> John Baptizes Jesus	Coloring pages of John baptizing Jesus, crayons or markers
		<b>Play-Dough Center:</b> God Loves You	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		<b>Block and Car Center:</b> Jesus Is Coming	Blocks, cars
	<b>Dramatic Play Center:</b> Families	Dishes, pots and pans, play food	
	Up to 5	<b>Prepare for Worship</b>	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.  <b>Additional Song Suggestions:</b> "Jesus Loves Me" "Jesus Loves the Little Children"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments <b>Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Children, Obey Your Parents" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Blessed Are Those" "Do You Love Me?" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises" "We Love"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
	<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 2	
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Mark 1:1-11	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Mark 1:11 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, large paper heart
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Messenger of Love	Standard-size sturdy white paper, two white feathers, glue, crayons or markers
		<b>Game:</b> God Loves You	None
		<b>Game:</b> Underwater	One rope
	<b>Snack:</b> Dove Snacks	Animal crackers	
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 1, Lesson 2
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Mark 1:1-11	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Jump to Obey	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Mother, May I?	None
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about God's love

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



God loves you

# THE WELCOME

## WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a heart. **Let this stamp (or sticker) remind you God told Jesus He loved Him and God loves you, too!**

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**Teacher's Note:** These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

## COLORING CENTER: JOHN BAPTIZES JESUS

### **SUPPLIES**

Coloring pages of John baptizing Jesus, crayons or markers

### **DO**

Children color the story of John baptizing Jesus.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**In our picture today we see Jesus and His friend, John. They are in the water because John baptized Jesus. Being baptized means to be carefully dipped under the water and brought back up again. It is a special way to show you love God.**

## PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: GOD LOVES YOU

### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

### **DO**

Children play with the play-dough while talking about how God's love. Encourage children to make hearts with the play-dough.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Today, we will hear how God told Jesus He loved Him. God loves us, too! Let's make some hearts to remind us of God's love for us.**

# THE WELCOME *continued...*

## **BLOCK AND CAR CENTER: JESUS IS COMING**

### **SUPPLIES**

Blocks, cars

### **DO**

Children travel to see John and hear his message.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**God sent a man named John to tell everyone Jesus was coming. People traveled from all around to hear him speak. Can you use the toy cars and pretend to travel to see John? (Children respond.) When you find him, you can say what John would have said, "Jesus is coming."**

## **DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER: FAMILIES**

### **SUPPLIES**

Dishes, pots and pans, play food

### **DO**

Children pretend to cook a meal.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Who is in your family? (Children respond.) What does your family like to make for dinner? (Children respond.) Can you make one of your family's favorite meals? (Children respond.)**

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## **PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

**It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away.** Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com))

<b>"Children</b>	With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.
<b>obey</b>	Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
<b>your parents."</b>	The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).
<b>Ephesians 6:1</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



Jesus as the King who is with us

# THE WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Praise music, optional: musical instruments

**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 "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



**Before we sing, let's talk with Jesus.** Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, we love You. Thank You for loving us. Amen.**



**Let's tell Jesus how much we love Him.** Sing: "Do You Love Me?"

**God is with us now as we sing praise, give our offering, and pray to Him. He is very pleased when we praise Him. He loves us very much. Let's give our offering now.** Sing: "Let Everything That Has Breath" while collecting the offering.



**Let's see how our friends Delbert and Lello are doing today.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 2.



**God the Father told Jesus He was pleased with Him. God is pleased with you, too! He is pleased when He sees you obey your father and your mother.** Sing Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Children, Obey Your Parents."



**Let's practice our Bible Memory Verse with the motions.**

- "Children** With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.
- obey** Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
- your parents."** The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).
- Ephesians 6:1** Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



God the Father loves Jesus

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Mark 1:11, picture of the Bible story, large paper heart

**Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.**

<b>With my eyes on my teacher;</b>	Point to eyes.
<b>My mouth quiet as can be,</b>	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
<b>I will listen to hear,</b>	Cup hand around ear.
<b>How God loves you and me.</b>	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

**Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears.** Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

**When you arrived in class today, what was the treasure you received?** (Sticker or stamp of a heart.) Hold up the paper heart. **Do you remember what the heart is a reminder of?** (God loves you.) **How much does God love you? A little? A lot?** Stretch your arms as wide as you can. **God loves you this much and a whole lot more! God loved Jesus, too. Let's listen to our story.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Mark 1:11.



### WATCH THE WORD: MARK 1:1-11

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **At the Jordan River,**
- **John baptized everyone.**
- **He preached about forgiveness.**
- **He said the Lord would come.**
  
- **He told them all to stop their sin,**
- **And get ready for the Lord.**
- **Then John baptized Jesus,**
- **And saw heaven's open door.**
  
- **And then the Holy Spirit**
- **Came down on Him like a dove.**
- **God said, "With You I'm very pleased.**
- **You're My Son, Whom I love."**

**Who did God say was His Son?** (Jesus.) **Jesus' Father in heaven is God. God loves Jesus! Who else does God love?** (You, me, parents, friends, etc.) **God loves you very much.**



God the Father loves you

## THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: MESSENGER OF LOVE**

**Purpose:** To create a picture of a dove descending with God's message of love at Jesus' baptism.

**Supplies:** Standard-size sturdy white paper, two white feathers, glue, crayons or markers

**Prepare:** Draw or copy an outline of the following items on the white paper:

Top of paper: Clouds

Center of paper: Descending dove with banner in beak

Inside dove's banner: "God + (outline of a heart) + U"

Bottom of paper: Jordan River

Inside the river: "**Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River.**" **Mark 1:1-11**

**Optional:** For a more involved craft, draw a picture of Jesus in the river, glue cotton balls to the clouds, and/or put fish stickers in the Jordan River.

#### **Directions:**

1. Glue a white feather on each of the dove's wings.
2. Color the heart on the banner (any color).
3. Color the Jordan River blue.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **John baptized people in the Jordan River. That means John carefully helped people go under the water and come up again. Being baptized is a special way to show you love God.**
- **Who did John baptize?** (The people, Jesus.)
- **When Jesus was baptized, who did God send to show Jesus He loved Him?** (His Spirit which looked like a dove.) **Who else does God love?** (You and me.)
- **God was very happy with Jesus. Who else is God very happy with?** (You and me!)

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: GOD LOVES YOU**

**Purpose:** This game will help children learn God's love is for each one of them.

**Supplies:** None

**Who does God love?** (You and me.) **Let's play a game to help us remember God loves each of us.**

**Directions:** This game is played like the classic game, London Bridge Is Falling Down.

1. The teacher (or a helper) should form a "bridge" with another helper by facing each other and holding hands high in the air. Stand far enough apart for the children to walk through.
2. Have the children form a line.
3. As you sing or chant the following words to the tune of "London Bridge is Falling Down" (or your own tune), the children walk under the bridge and follow the line to go under again.  
**God loves you so very much! Very much! Very much!**  
**God loves you so very much. Thank You God!**
4. On the last line of the song, the "bridge" (children's arms) will fall and capture the child who is between them at that moment.
5. Continue playing until all children have had a chance to be captured or to be the bridge.

## **GAME: UNDERWATER**

**Purpose:** Children will play a game to help them think about how Jesus was baptized.

**Supplies:** One rope

**Jesus was baptized. That means He went underwater and came back up to show He belongs to God. Let's pretend we are going underwater and coming up, just like Jesus did when He was baptized.**

**Directions:**

1. Stretch the rope tight between you and an assistant, holding it at waist level. Have the children line up on one side of the rope.
2. Tell the children to pretend the rope is the top of the water in the river. They must pretend to "swim" underwater to the other side of the rope.
3. After a child "swims" under the rope, have him or her return to the end of the line.
4. Once all of the children have gone under the rope one time, lower it a few inches and repeat the game.
5. Repeat until the rope is too close to the ground to "swim" under.



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: DOVE SNACKS**

**Purpose:** Children will remember God sent His Spirit, which looked like a dove, to show He loved Jesus.

**Snack Suggestion:** Animal crackers

**God made all the animals. What animals do you see on your crackers?** (Children respond.) **What animal did we hear about in our story today?** (A dove.)

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.**  
**Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Who did God send to show Jesus He loved Him?** (His Spirit, which looked like a dove.)
  - **Doves are one of the many animals God made. He showed He loved Jesus when He sent the dove. God loves us, too!**
  - **God is Jesus' Father in heaven. How do you think Jesus felt when His Father in heaven said He was pleased with Him?** (Happy.)
  - **How do you feel when your parents are pleased with you?** (Children respond.)



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

<b>"Children</b>	With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.
<b>obey</b>	Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
<b>your parents."</b>	The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).
<b>Ephesians 6:1</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

### **PRAY**

**Let's pray together.** Say a closing prayer with the children.

### **PLAY**

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

### **DISMISSAL**

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## GOT TIME?

### SAY & DO: MARK 1:1-11

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **At the Jordan River,** (Move hand in a wave motion.)
- **John baptized everyone.** (Hold nose and dip, as if going underwater.)
- **He preached about forgiveness.** (Hug self.)
- **He said the Lord would come.** (Point to heaven.)
  
- **He told them all to stop their sin,** (Shake finger, as if scolding.)
- **And get ready for the Lord.** (Point to heaven.)
- **Then John baptized Jesus,** (Hold nose and dip, as if going underwater.)
- **And saw Heaven's open door.** (Raise both hands to heaven.)
  
- **And then the Holy Spirit** (Fold hands in prayer.)
- **Came down on Him like a dove.** (Flap arms like a bird.)
- **God said, "With You I'm very pleased,** (Smile.)
- **You're My Son, Whom I love."** (Hug self.)



### BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Children, obey your parents." Ephesians 6:1

### GAME: JUMP TO OBEY

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

**Jesus obeyed His parents. He wants us to obey our parents and the people who care for us. That reminds me of our Bible Memory Verse. Let's learn it together.**

**Directions:**

1. Children stand in a line, shoulder-to-shoulder.
2. Teacher says the Bible Memory Verse, "**Children, obey your parents,**" pausing after each word for children to repeat.
3. Each time they say a word, they jump forward one time.
4. Repeat with other motions as time allows: Clap, stomp, turn around, touch the floor, etc.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: MOTHER, MAY I?**

**Purpose:** Children practice obeying their parents as instructed in the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

**One way we can make God happy is by obeying our Moms and Dads and the people who care for us. Let's play a game where we practice obeying! In this game, you must remember to ask: "Mother (or Father), may I?" before you follow the instructions.**

### **Directions:**

1. Children line up ten feet from the teacher who acts as "Mother" or "Father."
2. "Mother" or "Father" gives a simple instruction to a specific child. For example: "Michael, take one big step forward." (Instruction examples: Jump up and down, laugh out loud, flap your arms, run in place, sit on the floor, spin in a circle, etc.)
3. Child asks: "Mother (or Father), may I?"
4. Mother (or Father) says, "Yes, you may." The child follows the instruction. If they forget, gently remind them to ask.
5. Be sure each child has a turn following instructions.



## **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about God's love.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 1, Lesson 2: Jesus Is Baptized

**PONDER!** After Jesus grew up, He was baptized to show He belonged to God. God sent His Spirit, which looked like a dove, to show He loved Jesus (Mark 1:1-11). Who else does God love?

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for showing us You love us by sending Jesus to us. Thank You for making us Your children. Amen."

**PLAY!** Face a family member or friend and hold hands to form a bridge. Sing these words to the tune of "London Bridge" while others walk under the bridge.

**God loves you so very much! Very much! Very much!**

**God loves you so very much. Thank You, God!**

Each time you sing, drop your arms to catch a different person in your family. Tell them God loves them. End with a big group hug!

### **UNIT 1 BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

- "Children** With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.
- obey** Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
- your parents."** The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).
- Ephesians 6:1** Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.