

6. Jesus Is Baptized (Mark 1:9-11)

So they went out and proclaimed that people should change their hearts and lives. (Mark 6:12)



PLAN

Session Outline

1. Gather

Greeting
Water and Shells Sensory Table
Watercolor Crayon Resist Painting
Transition to Explore

2. Explore

Sacred Conversations
Hear and See the Bible Story
Interact with the Bible Story
Say the Bible Verse
Transition to Respond

3. Respond

Loving God,
Loving Neighbor
Jayden's Baptism
Baptismal Card
Transition to Bless

4. Bless

Inviting
Praising
Blessing
At Home with God

Supplies

Basic Supplies: Tape | Stickers | Markers | Crayons, including white ones | Pencils | Glue | Paper | Scissors

Gather: Tub of water | Small pitcher and plastic or paper cups | Scallop seashells | Bath or hand towels | Watercolor paints | Paintbrushes | Small cups of water | Drawing paper

Explore: No additional supplies needed

Respond: Map of the United States

Bless: Scented lip balm sticks

Before You Teach

In Mark, the shortest of the four Gospels, we find the story of Jesus' life told succinctly with few extra details. Mark skips the story of Jesus' birth and simply notes that the beginning of the ministry of God's Son "happened just as it was written about in the prophecy of Isaiah." The first story Mark tells about Jesus is his baptism by John. Mark begins by identifying John as the one whom Isaiah foretold would prepare the way for God's messenger.

Although Mark doesn't provide John's background, we know from the Gospel of Luke that John is the child born to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age. Even before his birth, John's parents are told that John will be filled with the Holy Spirit and that he will turn many people to God. Luke also tells us that Elizabeth was a relative of Mary's, making John the Baptist and Jesus related. The Bible doesn't tell us whether John and Jesus knew each other as children.

Thirty years after the births of John and Jesus, John is in the wilderness wearing camel's hair, eating locusts and wild honey, baptizing people in the river Jordan, and exhorting people to acknowledge their sin and accept God's forgiveness. John encouraged people to be baptized as a way of preparing for one who would come and bring the Holy Spirit to God's people. John was speaking, of course, of Jesus. One day as John is going about the business of baptizing people, Jesus came from Nazareth to be baptized by John. As Jesus was coming out of the water, the heavens opened, the Spirit descended on him like a dove, and a voice from heaven claimed Jesus as God's Son.

As you teach today's lesson, be sensitive to those children who have not been baptized. Reassure children that it is not baptism that makes one a child of God. Baptism is a symbol that reminds us that each one of us is a child of God.

6. Jesus Is Baptized (Mark 1:9-11)

So they went out and proclaimed that people should change their hearts and lives. (Mark 6:12)



GATHER

Greeting

Before class: Display the Attendance Chart (Class Kit—pp. 15–18) at eye level. Put together the model of the school and the figures of Mr. Maxwell, Rachel, and Armen (Class Kit—p. 9).

- Play, “Only You” (Annual Music CD or Adventure DVD) as you welcome each child.
- Show the children where to place their offerings.
- Help each child mark the Attendance Chart with a sticker or permanent marker.
- Place the Deep Blue Shores Map (Class Kit—p. 11) and the school and the Mr. Maxwell, Rachel, and Armen figures (Class Kit—p. 9) on a table or on the floor for the children to play with and explore. If available, add the Deep Blue Shores Maps, buildings, and figures from previous quarters.

TIP: *Have a quiet space in your room with books and soft toys for children who are not quite ready to join in an activity when they arrive.*

A—Water and Shells Sensory Table (Sensory)

Before class: Fill a small tub half full of water. Place several scallop shells in the water.

- Set the small tub of water and the shells on a table. Place a small pitcher and plastic or paper cups next to the tub.
- Invite the children to explore the water and shells.

TIP: *Keep towels nearby in case there are any spills. Have the children wash their hands after handling the shells.*

OR

B—Watercolor Crayon Resist Painting (Art)

Before class: Sort out the white crayons and/or light-colored crayons from the darker ones.

- Give each child a piece of drawing paper.
 - Invite the children to draw pictures on their papers with crayons. Encourage them to draw with thick crayon lines. White crayons will make the most impact.
 - Give each child a paintbrush and access to watercolor paint. Place a few small cups of water in the center of the table for rinsing the brushes.
 - Encourage the children to paint over their crayon artwork with watercolor paint, and to notice how the crayon markings resist the paint.
-

Transition to Explore

- Have the children help clean up and then move to the Bible story circle. Encourage them to pretend as though they are splashing in water as they move to the story circle.

6. Jesus Is Baptized (Mark 1:9-11)

So they went out and proclaimed that people should change their hearts and lives. (Mark 6:12)



EXPLORE

Sacred Conversations

SAY: This month we are hearing stories about Jesus when he was grown up. Jesus became a great leader for the community.

ASK: I wonder:

- How many friends are here with us today? Who is missing?
 - How do you feel today?
 - What's one thing that happened in your community this week that you really liked?
-

Hear and See the Bible Story

SAY: Today our Bible story is about the day when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River by his cousin, John the Baptist. Let's see what happens when Jesus comes out of the water.

- Tell the children the story, "A Voice in the Wilderness" (*Deep Blue Bible Storybook*—p. 266).
- Watch the Deep Blue Adventure for Session 6 (Adventure DVD) with the children.

ASK: Have you ever seen a baptism?

Interact with the Bible Story

- Give each child a copy of "Jesus Is Baptized" (Bible Story Sheets—Session 6).
 - Read the story with the children, encouraging them to read the words in blue.
-

Say the Bible Verse

Before class: Post the Bible Verse Poster—Unit 2 (Class Kit—p. 5) on a wall or bulletin board

- Point to the Bible Verse Poster. Say the Bible verse for the children, and then repeat it together.
 - Teach the children signs from American Sign Language for some of the words in the Bible verse (Leader Guide—p. 92 and www.deepbluekids.com/This-Sunday).
 - Watch the Unit 2 Bible Verse video (Adventure DVD) with the children.
-

Transition to Respond

- Have the children move to the next activity as though they are gently floating on top of water.

6. Jesus Is Baptized (Mark 1:9-11)

So they went out and proclaimed that people should change their hearts and lives. (Mark 6:12)



RESPOND

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

Before class: Post "All Are Welcome" (Class Kit—p. 2) and the Mission Poster (Class Kit—p. 29) on a wall or bulletin board. Locate a map of the United States.

- Play, "All Are Welcome" (Annual Music CD or Adventure DVD). Sing along and dance to the music.

SAY: This month we will be learning about and supporting a mission organization in Tennessee. Jubilee Project works with families who live in the mountains who may not have plumbing that works well or it is hard to get plumbing added to their bathrooms and sinks. Some families may not have running water in their homes at all.

- Show the children a map of the United States. Point out the state of Tennessee and the area where the children live.

ASK: Do you live close to Hancock County, Tennessee, or far away? Why do you think it is helpful for people to have running water and plumbing inside their homes?

A—Jayden's Baptism (Art)

Before class: Make a copy of "Jayden's Baptism" (p. 42) for each child.

- Give each child a copy of "Jayden's Baptism."
 - Invite the children to color their pictures.
 - As the children color, discuss the baptisms each of you has seen or been a part of.
-

OR

B—Baptismal Card (Activity Sheets)

- Give each child a copy of Activity Sheets—Session 6.
 - Invite the children to make "Baptismal Cards" according to the instructions.
 - Give the cards to the pastor, children's director, or another church leader who will share them with families as baptisms are celebrated in your church community.
-

Transition to Bless

- Have the children clean up and then move to the Bible story circle as though they are swimming.

6. Jesus Is Baptized (Mark 1:9-11)

So they went out and proclaimed that people should change their hearts and lives. (Mark 6:12)



BLESS

Inviting

Before class: Cut out the mural pieces from the bottom of the Unit 2—Bible Story Mural (Class Kit—p. 21) and place them in an envelope or zip-top bag. Post the Unit 2—Bible Story Mural on a wall or bulletin board.

- Gather the children around the mural. Invite a child to tape the image of Jesus and John in the river to the mural.

ASK: What do you remember about the Bible story we heard today? What do you think we can learn about community from this story?

Praising

Before class: Display “Singing Together” (Class Kit—p. 31) on a wall or bulletin board.

- Sing together, “Jesus Heard” (Class Kit—p. 31).

TIP: *If time permits, invite the children to choose more songs to sing.*

Blessing

- One at a time invite each child to choose and bring to you a scented lip balm stick, and then place his or her hand on yours.
 - Using the lip balm stick, draw a cross on the top of the child’s hand.
 - Bless the child by saying, “You are a child of God. God loves you and finds happiness in you.”
 - Continue until each child has received a blessing.
-

At Home with God

ASK: What’s one thing about our time today that you can tell your family?

- Give each child a copy Bible Story Sheets—Session 6. Look at “Family Faith Activities” together.

ASK: Which of these activities are you most excited to try this week?

- Send home the Bible Story Sheets—Session 6 with each child.

6. Jesus Is Baptized (Mark 1:9-11)

Jayden's Baptism

