

JESUS AND JOHN THE BAPTIST

Luke 3:1-22



Key Verse:

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Luke 3:18

The Point:

Jesus is proclaimed as the Son of God.

Making Connections:

Revelation of the Son of Man

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Gospel

Spiritual Practice:

Worship



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

This is the season of Epiphany: the season when we celebrate how God is revealed through Jesus, and the season when we focus on Jesus' life here on earth. The previous readings were two stories of Jesus in the temple: one when he was an infant, and again when he was a young boy. Today we see this child grown into a man and hear the story of the beginning of his public ministry.

Story Summary:

Jesus and John the Baptist

This Scripture begins setting the scene by listing those in power (Emperor Tiberius, Pontius Pilate, and Herod), thus giving us a point in history. Placed into this scene, in the wilderness around Jordan, is the prophet John the Baptist.

John's message is one of redemption and forgiveness. He calls people to a baptism by water to forgive their sins and to prepare for the imminent coming of the Messiah, who will baptize with the Spirit.

Jesus comes to John and asks to be baptized. As he is baptized, the Holy Spirit descends on him and a voice is heard: "You are my Son, the beloved; with you I am well pleased!" (Luke 3:22).

The Point

Jesus is proclaimed as the Son of God.

Throughout this unit, we are looking at how Jesus reveals God to us. One of the first steps in understanding these revelations is recognizing Jesus as a legitimate avenue for us to encounter God. The point of this lesson's Scripture is for us

to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. Simeon and Anna from two weeks ago, and now John, all reveal him as such, and remind us that he comes for the salvation of all!

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Gospel

Today's Scripture lesson is from the Gospel of Luke. Gospel is a word that means "good news." In the New Testament, the good news is about God's unconditional, unconquerable love for us that we see in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah. The word Gospel is also used more specifically to refer to the Bible books devoted to telling the story of Jesus' life, ministry, death, and resurrection, namely the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Each of these books reveal to the reader how the life and ministry of Jesus proves that he is the good news; he is the Messiah that they have been waiting for.

Spiritual Practice: Worship

Worship can be a powerful connection point for a community of faith. This week, we come together around the central focus of baptism. Jesus' baptism by John begins his public ministry. When someone is baptized in the church, they begin their journey as members of the church family, and a member of the great cloud of witnesses that have come before them and are yet to be. We gather together in worship to bear witness and to welcome the new family member.



John the Baptist



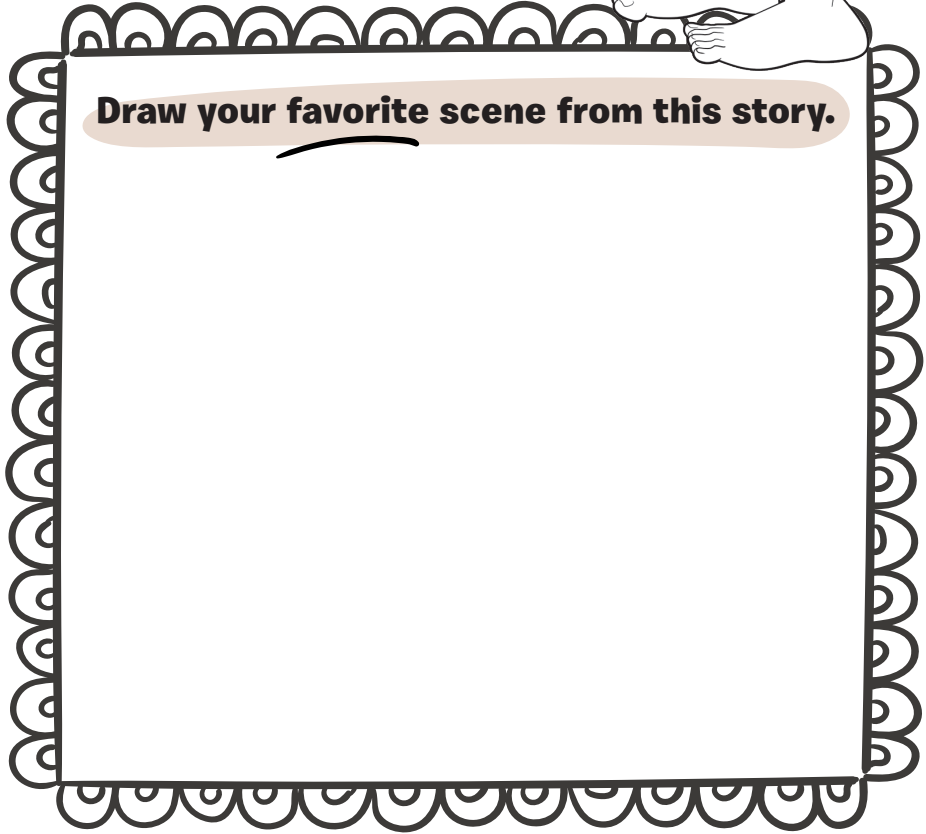
Read Matthew 3:1-17. Write a short summary of this story.

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.....

.....

Draw your favorite scene from this story.



1 What type of insect did John like to eat?

.....

.....

2 In which river did John baptize people?

.....

.....

3 Who baptized Yeshua?

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.....

What could the life of John the Baptist teach me?

.....

.....

God used John the Baptist to...

.....

.....

Hidden Pictures: The Birth of John the Baptist

Find these objects hidden in the picture below: book, cake, fish, football, magnet, moon, needle and thread, snail, sock, spoon, sherrif's badge, star.



Prepare the Way

As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Luke 3:4 (NIV)



The activity is based on Luke 3:1-6

V S B F Z K T E U Q Y A X R A
V M O D E O U Y K R F W Z O X
K O A N C T B A L E P D H U F
X O I T G J R H C P L E N G L
S T Z C N S T D I E F S C H I
Z H C H E P K F B N A E O X P
P R E A C H I N G T S R I T I
F C L H K H D V D K T T L M S
P B A A K A Y A S F R F C M Y
G R V L M R Z L L O A F R B W
P W E J L F E L M R I I O V X
X Y F P O I Q E V G G W O J F
R A Q F A J N Y V I H V K C K
Z Q L V X R B G N V T W E P J
V W Y S D U E I N E S R D E Q

CALLING	STRAIGHT	DESERT	REPENT
VOICE	VALLEY	PREPARE	FORGIVE
CROOKED	ROUGH	SMOOTH	PREACHING



"His Name Is John"

"And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High because you will prepare the way for the Lord." Luke 1:76 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

1. 13-5-18-3-25 _____

2. 19-1-12-22-1-20-9-15-14 _____

3. 19-5-18-22-5 _____

4. 6-15-18-7-9-22-5 _____

5. 19-1-22-9-15-18 _____

6. 16-18-15-16-8-5-20 _____

7. 16-18-1-9-19-5 _____

8. 13-9-7-8-20-25 _____

PRAISE
PROPHET

SERVE
SAVIOR

SALVATION
MERCY

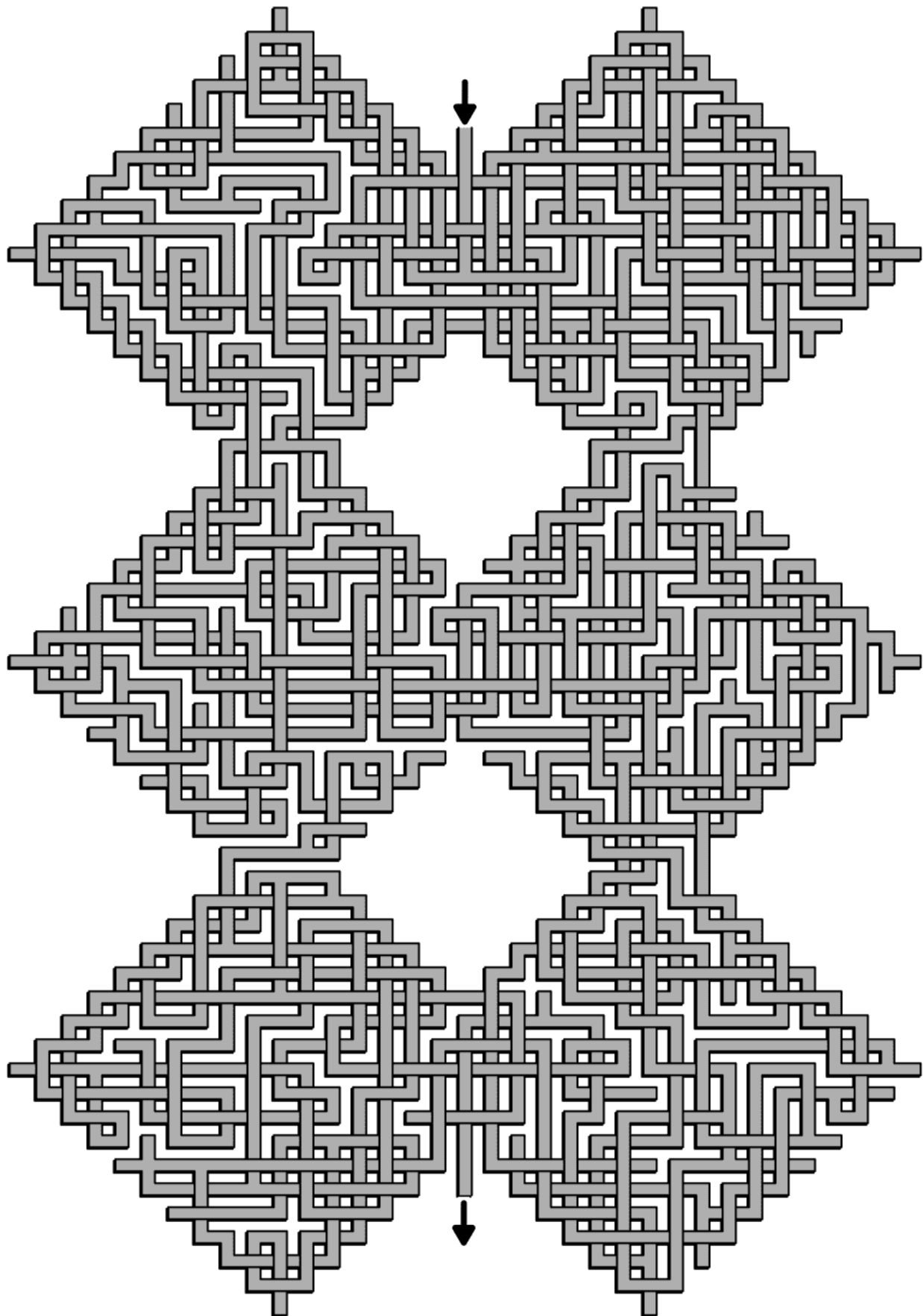
MIGHTY
FORGIVE

JOHN THE BAPTIST



Prepare the way for the Lord!

WEAVING MAZE





THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2024-2025)

Lesson #3-18
Luke 3:1-22

LAST WEEK

When he is eight days old, Jesus' parents bring him to the temple, and they encounter Simeon and Anna. Later, when he is 12, he returns to the temple to learn from the teachers there. (Luke 2:21-38; Luke 2:41-52).

THIS WEEK

Jesus encounters his cousin, John the Baptist, and Jesus' public ministry begins (Luke 3:1-22).

THE POINT

Jesus is proclaimed as the Son of God.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Gospel

Today's Scripture lesson is from the Gospel of Luke. Gospel is a word that means "good news." In the New Testament, the good news is about God's unconditional, unconquerable love for us that we see in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah. The word Gospel is also used more specifically to refer to the Bible books devoted to telling the story of Jesus' life, ministry, death, and resurrection, namely the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Each of these books reveal to the reader how the life and ministry of Jesus proves that he is the good news; he is the Messiah that they have been waiting for.

NEXT WEEK

Even though he is rejected in Nazareth, Jesus brings good news for those in need (Luke 4:14-30).

STORY SUMMARY

Jesus and John the Baptist

This Scripture begins setting the scene by listing those in power (Emperor Tiberius, Pontius Pilate, and Herod), thus giving us a point in history. Placed into this scene, in the wilderness around the Jordan River, is the prophet John the Baptist. John's message is one of redemption and forgiveness. He calls people to a baptism by water to forgive their sins and to prepare for the imminent coming of the Messiah, who will baptize with the Spirit. Jesus comes to John and asks to be baptized. As he is baptized, the Holy Spirit descends on him and a voice is heard: "You are my Son, the beloved; with you I am well pleased!"

PRACTICE: WORSHIP

When someone is baptized, they become members of the church family that extends throughout time and around the world. We gather in worship to welcome our new family member. Create a way that you can welcome each other to your worship time this week: hugs, tracing the sign of the cross, or greet them with the words, "God loves you and so do I."

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✝ Where do you see the message that "It is GOOD" in this Scripture?
- ✝ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✝ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Luke 3:1-22

John baptizes those who come to hear his message as he announces that the time of the Messiah is near. John's message is for all people. Look in the news and find the story about people who lives far from your family. Say a prayer for them.

Monday—Read Malachi 3:1-4

The messenger is coming and will purify and refine people. Find items in your house that are gold or silver or otherwise valuable and talk about why they are considered precious.

Tuesday—Read Acts 19:1-7

Paul shared the power of the Holy Spirit with followers. Spend time outside, attempting to feel or hear the wind.

Wednesday—Read Ephesians 4:1-7

As followers of Christ, we are part of one body, worshipping one God. At a meal, talk about your favorite team of any kind, fictional or real. How does that team work together?

Thursday—Read Luke 3:23-38

The Scripture describes the ancestry of Jesus, all the way back to Adam. Work together as a family to create a family tree.

Friday—Read Luke 4:1-4

Jesus is tempted in the wilderness for 40 days. What would it be like to not eat for 40 days? Talk about what food you would miss the most.

Saturday—Read Luke 4:5-13

Jesus is tempted by the devil in the wilderness. Each person name one thing that is tempting and pray together for each other to make the right choices each day.