



## Lesson 28

2s & 3s

# BAPTISM OF JESUS

March 8 & 9

**JESUS IS OUR  
EXAMPLE**



## LESSON GOAL:

**Background:** John the Baptist loved God and told people that the Savior of the world was coming soon. He baptized people in the Jordan River to help them prepare their hearts for the coming Savior. One day, Jesus came to the Jordan River and asked John to baptize Him. At first, John tried to talk Him out of it but then Jesus said, "It is right for us to do this. It carries out God's holy plan." As soon as Jesus was baptized, He saw the spirit of God coming down on Him like a dove and a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, and I love him. I am very pleased with him."

**Lesson Goal:** For kids to understand Jesus was baptized as part of God's plan to show everyone the importance of baptism. Baptism is an act of obedience to God, showing outwardly the inward change in our hearts. Jesus was obedient to God and lived as an example for us to follow.

Mathew 3:13-17

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**City Serve**

Saturday, May 2nd

**THEME FOR THIS SERIES:**  
Youtube

## KEY VERSE:



In the same way, **let your light shine so others can see it.** Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.

**Matthew 5:16 (NIRV)**

*shortened version for younger kids is in bold*

## MISSION FOCUS:

### CURE INTERNATIONAL

CURE is a group that loves Jesus and helps kids feel better. They have hospitals in Africa and the Philippines where doctors fix things like little feet that need straightening and legs that need help to walk right. Kids from many countries come to CURE to get better!

***During the month of May, you can help by bringing a gift of money to help a child get the care they need or praying for those who are part of CURE.***

Let's be part of God's work in making kids healthy and happy!



25  
min

# CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in time is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome by creating a welcoming environment.



## WELCOME FAMILIES

As kids arrive to check-in, greet them and help them feel safe, seen and secure.



### SAY:

I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**! Do you have any offering to put in our offering bin? *(Direct child to offering station)*. You can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

**(Insert parent name)**, do you have a diaper bag or any other specific instructions for today? *(Respond accordingly)* Enjoy service!



### DO:

Help kids feel **SAFE** (physically & emotionally), **SEEN** (known & understood) and **SOOTHED** (calmed & supported) so they can become **SECURE** in your classroom.



## FREE PLAY

The goal of free play is to create space for toddlers to get adapted to the classroom so they can connect with the Ministry Partners and other kids.



### DO:

As kids play with the classroom toys and games, take time to connect on their level. Initiate conversation by relating to something the child is doing, something you notice about him/her or an overview of what they can expect during class. The goal is to help them feel safe and connected.

### Examples:

- That's a nice red shirt you're wearing! Is red your favorite color?
- I see you're holding a yellow lego. What are you building?
- I see that you're sad. Your grown ups went to church but they'll be back soon.
- We're going to learn about Jesus here. When we clean up our toys, we're going to do a craft.

15  
min

# EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



## MAKE: Baptism Cup

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

**Supplies:** blue cup, popsicle stick, paper square, God statement sticker, markers/crayons, tape/glue



### DO:

Pass out one paper square per child. Have them color the square. Then have them tape/glue the square to the top of their popsicle stick and stick it through the paper cup. They can decorate their cup and then add the God statement sticker to the outside.



### SAY:

Today we get to learn about Jesus getting baptized! He did this in obedience to God and to show us an example of how we should follow God as well. Let's make a craft to prepare us for our lesson today.



## CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by discussing the Big 3 questions.



### SAY:

**Answer THE BIG 3 questions to help kids prepare for the lesson**

**1. Who is our story about today?**

Jesus and John the Baptist

**2. What is the problem?**

Jesus was perfect and never sinned, but He wanted to be baptized

**3. What will God do?**

Jesus was baptized to show obedience to God and to set the example for us of how we should follow God as well.



## CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to transition to Large Group by sitting quietly in the designated story area.



### SAY:

Let's all work together to clean up so we can hear our Bible story for the day. We can sing a song as we clean!

**Sing:** "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."



## Craft Example



15  
min

# LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God through Worship, an engaging Bible story and a time of response.



## EXPECTATIONS

As you begin Large Group, play the Church Today Expectations video  
(Plex > Videos > EC > 2s & 3s)



### SAY:

We're glad to be at church today.  
We will listen, we will pray.  
We'll sit quietly in our spot.  
We'll tell Jesus we love Him a lot!



### DO:

PRAY before transitioning to worship.



## WORSHIP

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex to sing some simple songs with your class.  
To access these videos, go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.

**SONG 1:** The B-I-B-L-E

**SONG 2:** Walking With Jesus

**SONG 3:** Oh, How I Love Jesus



## BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story (see script on page 4). Use the flipbook provided.



## WORSHIP RESPONSE

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

**Supplies:** "Thank You" stickers, cross poster

Jesus is our example! Not only did Jesus show us an example of following God by being baptized, but God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to earth to save us from our sins. Sins are anything we think **(Point to head)**, say **(point to mouth)**, or do **(wave hands)** that makes God sad. Let's take some time to say thank you to God for sending Jesus to save us from our sins! **Invite kids to come up one at a time to put a "thank you" sticker on the cross poster. Have the kids say, "Thank you, God!" as they put it on.**



## BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

*May you know that God loves you so much that He sent Jesus to save you from your sins and to show us how to follow God! Jesus is our example!*

# BIBLE STORY

**Hamilton's Prop:** small container of water



## INTRODUCTION - HAMILTON

Use the Hamilton puppet to introduce the lesson topic and get the kids engaged.



### SAY:

Hi Hamilton! **Hamilton waves container of water in air.** Well, what do you have there? **Hamilton whispers in your ear.** Oh? Friends, Hamilton said today we're going to hear the story of Jesus being baptized! Jesus was baptized in the water of the Jordan River. **Hamilton shakes the water container again.** Friends, if you're ready to hear our Bible story today, can you wiggle your ears with me? **Wiggle ears together.** Let's dive in!



## BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story. Use the story cards in your curriculum folder as you read the story.



### SAY:

Last week, we learned about Jesus as a young boy in the temple! Today in our Bible story, Jesus has grown up and started His very special work for God. Let's all pretend to grow like Jesus grew up. **Have kids start squatting down on the ground, then slowly stand tall and reach to sky. Sit back down.**

One day, Jesus went to the Jordan River. At the river, Jesus' cousin John was very busy preaching and baptizing people. Baptism is a big word! **Let's say it together - baptism!** When someone is baptized, they go under water and come back up. This is a special way to show others that they have decided to follow Jesus!

John couldn't believe it when Jesus asked him to baptize Him! **Show me your surprised/shocked faces.** Jesus was perfect and had never sinned! But Jesus said it was the right thing to do. Jesus wanted to show everyone who followed Him what was right to do. Jesus is our example!

Jesus loves us so much! We can follow Jesus' example of how to love God and love others the right way. **Give me a thumbs up!** Jesus is our example!

15  
min

# RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



## SAY IT OUT LOUD!

Help the kids remember the God Statement for the day by repeating it aloud and doing the hand motions.



### SAY:

Today our God statement is **Jesus is our example!**

Let's say it together in a fun way to help us remember it.

*Say it loudly, softly and in a fun voice. Then do the hand motions.*



### DO:

**Jesus** (tap the palm of each hand with middle finger of opposite hand)  
**is "our example"** (hold up flat hand with palm facing out, point to palm of hand)



## ACTIVITY- What should we do?

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

**Supplies:** None



### SAY:

Jesus was baptized as an example of what we should do. Let's talk about things that we should do and should not do. In this game, you are going to **jump up and down** if I say something you **should** do. If I say something you **shouldn't do**, you can **sit down**.

1. Share our toys (yes!)
2. Take a toy from someone else (no!)
3. Pray to Jesus (yes!)
4. Thank God for what He has given to us (yes!)



### DO:

Have the kids start off standing. Come up with various things they should or should not do. When it is something they should do, give the kids a bit of time to jump up and down.



15  
min

## EAT & PLAY

The goal of this time is to provide a snack, introduce kids to structured classroom games, have free play and to encourage interaction and participation with others.



### SNACK

Check your classroom roster to ensure none of your kids have allergies, then offer each child a snack and water (provided in your classroom).



### GAME IDEAS

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class.



#### DO:

- Red light, Green light
- Farmer in the Dell
- Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes
- Stuffed Animal Hide and Seek
- Follow the Leader
- Simon Says
- Hokey, Pokey
- I Spy with colors
- Read a book or a story out of picture Bible
- Gather paper and crayons and practice drawing

5  
min

## CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.



#### DO:

Encourage kids to finish their Explore craft, utilize the prayer station or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any upcoming events or announcements while handing their parent the announcement card or flyer.