



## Nurturing Faith... Every Day in Every Way

January 11, 2015

Baptism of our Lord

**Genesis 1:1-5**

**Psalms 29 (3)**

**Acts 19:1-7**

**Mark 1:4-11**



**A new life in Jesus!** Object: Several new items.

Sometimes, when we meet a friend we may say, "What's new?" It has only been a couple of weeks since Christmas, so if I were to ask you, "What's New?" you would probably have a lot to tell me about. (If time permits, allow the children to tell about something new that they have.) All of us like new things, don't we? Don't you just love the look and feel of new clothes? Well maybe children don't get as excited about new clothes as we adults do, but I am sure you get excited about new toys! You have probably spent hours playing with the new toys you received for Christmas.

One thing I really enjoy is a new beginning. We are at the beginning of a new year. What an exciting time! It is a chance to start over. It is a time to try to do things better than we did last year.

Today, we are going to talk about another new beginning. It is better than the beginning of a new year -- it is the beginning of a new life. A new life in Jesus. In the Bible we read about a man called John the Baptist. John went all around the countryside in Judea telling people to repent and ask God to forgive them of their sins. When they confessed their sin and asked God to forgive them, John baptized them in the river Jordan. They were baptized to show the world that God had forgiven their sins and they were washed clean. This was a new beginning for them. Even Jesus himself went to John the Baptist and was baptized by him.

We still baptize people today. Perhaps some of you have been baptized. When we are baptized, it is a picture of what Jesus has done for us. He died, was buried, and rose again to wash away our sin and give us a new life in him. Now, that's what I call a new beginning!

Dear Father, we thank you that Jesus, who was without sin, washes away our sins and gave us a new life. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

-Used by permission, Sermons4kids

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia. A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." Alleluia (Matt. 3:17)

## Word Search Puzzle

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

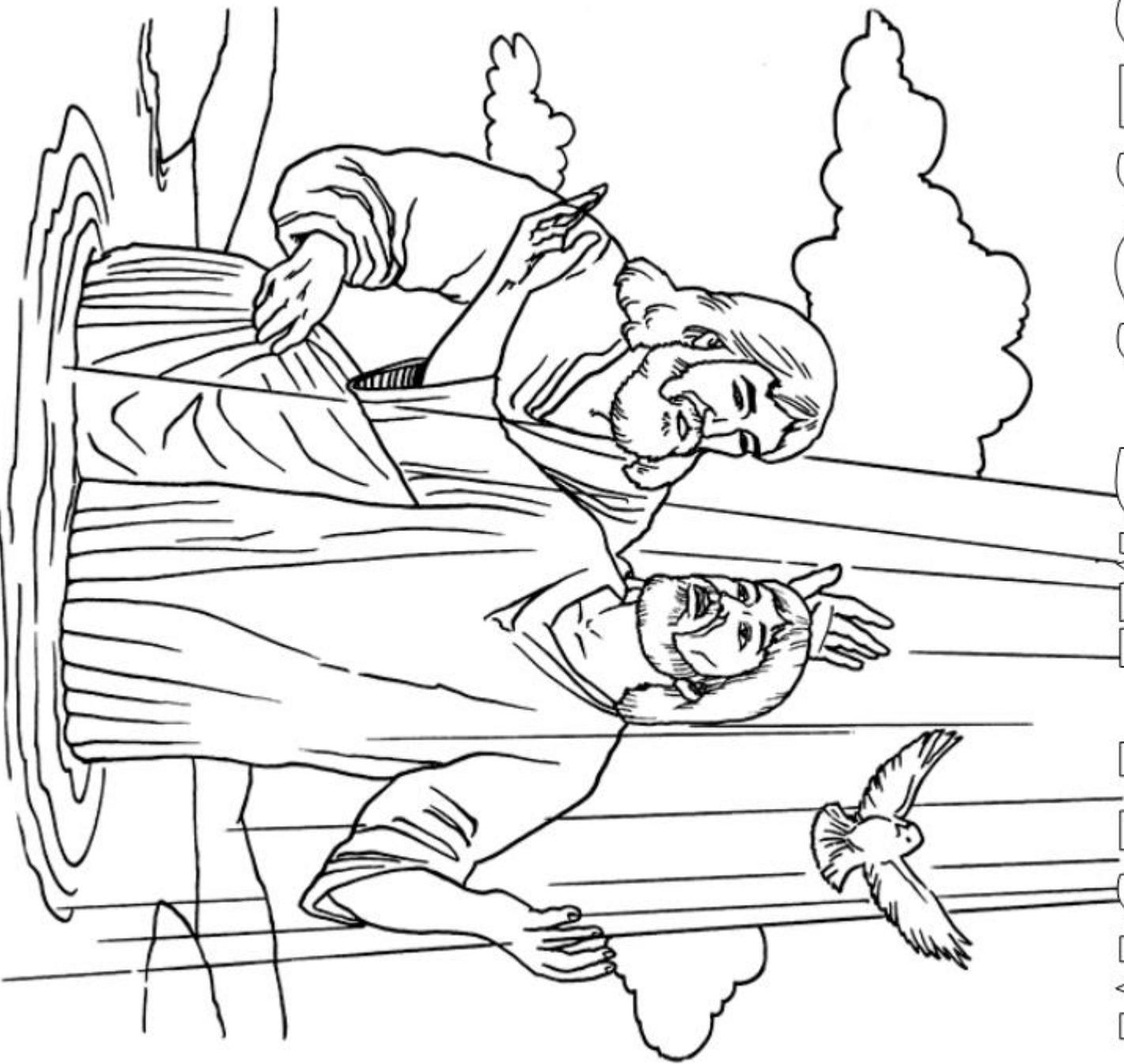
REPENT	JORDAN	FORGIVE	HEAVEN
CLOTHING	SINS	JESUS	WILD
LOCUSTS	WATER	RIVER	BAPTIZED
SPIRIT	CONFESS	HONEY	JOHN

**BIBLE VERSE PUZZLE:** Today's Bible verse (or a portion of the verse) can be typed or written in big letters on construction paper and cut into several sections. Let children put the verse together as a puzzle and recite the words on the puzzle verse. If time allows, let the teacher and children recite the Bible verse and EMPHASIZE a different word each time, such as emphasize CONFESSING the first time and SINS the next time, and BAPTIZED the next time, etc.

**WATER WORKS:** Give children blue paper to tear into pieces to glue onto another piece of paper to look like water. Children can draw a person coming out of the water as in baptism, and write words from today's lesson on the waves of the water.

**BIBLE WORDS HUNT:** The teacher can have parts of today's Bible verse written in big letters on a large poster board. The words that are missing can be hidden around the room for the children to find at the appropriate time and tape the missing word to the Bible verse poster. Words to HUNT for could be BAPTIZING, DESERT, PREACHING, REPENTANCE, FORGIVENESS, SINS, COUNTRYSIDE, JERUSALEM, CONFESSING, BAPTIZED, JORDAN RIVER, MARK.

# JESUS' BAPTISM



From BibleStoryCard Learning System(tm) Coloring Book ©1996 Wesleyan Publishing House  
Used by permission. Additional BibleStoryCard resources available by calling 1-800-493-7539 or visiting online  
[http://www.parable.com/kids/group\\_1052.htm](http://www.parable.com/kids/group_1052.htm)