



The Baptism of Jesus



John was the son God gave to Elizabeth and Zechariah. When John grew up, he began to tell people to get ready for the Savior. John preached in the desert. He wore clothes made of camel's hair. He wore a leather belt around his waist. He ate grasshoppers and wild honey.

John told the people, "You are all sinners, every one of you. Turn away from your sins. Turn to God. Ask God to forgive you. Be baptized and receive God's forgiveness." Many believed John's message from God. These people wanted God to forgive their sins. So John baptized them in the Jordan River. John baptized so many people that they called him John the Baptist.

A little later Jesus came to John. Jesus was about 30 years old. It was time for Him to begin His work as the Savior. Jesus asked John to baptize Him. But John said, "I need to be baptized by You. But You want to be baptized by me?" Jesus said, "God wants it this way." So John baptized Jesus.

After Jesus was baptized, He came out of the water. Then the sky above Him opened up. The Holy Spirit came down in the form of a dove and rested on Jesus. Then a voice from heaven said, "You are My own dear Son. I am pleased with You." Now John was sure that Jesus was the promised Savior.

Jesus washes away our sins.



Parents: Find your baptismal certificate or your child's baptismal certificate. Tell your child the story of your Baptism or his or her Baptism. If you have not been baptized, you may want to talk about why and when you would like to become a *baptized* child of God.