

saint mary's press

The
Catholic Children's Bible

The
Baptism
of
Jesus

Big Book



Valerie Ellery

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See Matthew 3:1-17 in *The Catholic Children's Bible* for the full story.

Jesus Wants to Be Baptized

Jesus knew that John was baptizing people.

Jesus traveled from **Galilee** to find John.

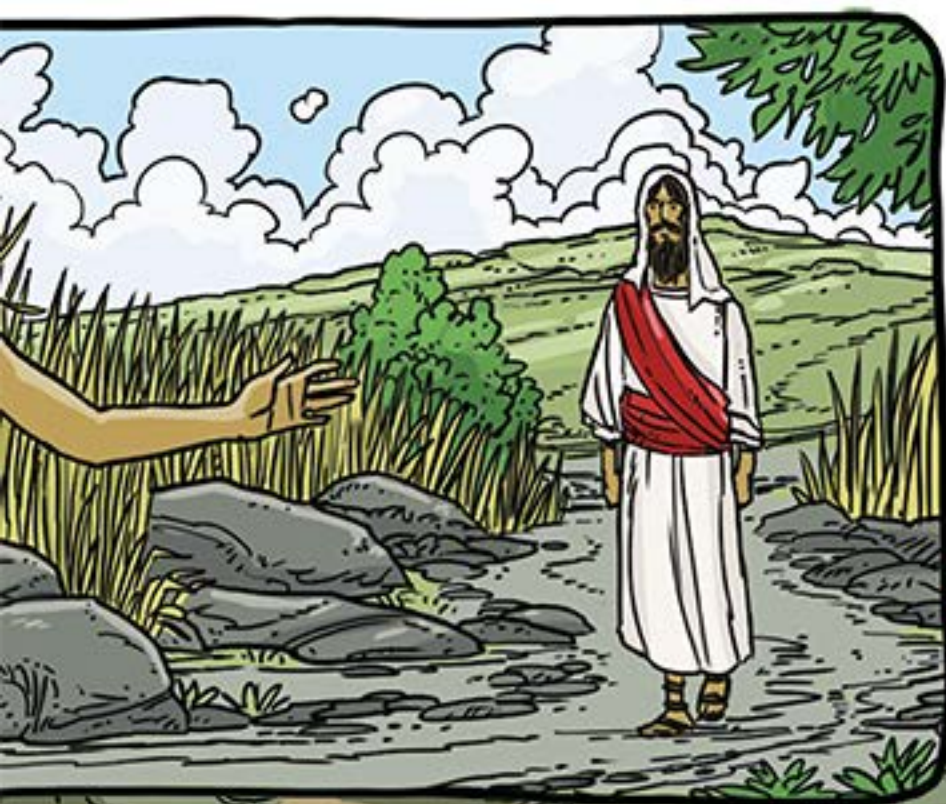
Jesus wanted John to baptize him.



Jesus arrives at the Jordan River.

Jesus sees all the people getting baptized.

Jesus says to John, "I have come so that you will baptize me."





Glossary

baptize – to wash with water as a sign of turning toward God and away from sin. In the Catholic Church, Baptism is a sacrament that makes us children of God and members of the Church.

confess – to admit a sin or mistake

Galilee – region of ancient Palestine located between the Jordan River and the Sea of Galilee

Jordan River – large body of water that flows south from the Sea of Galilee and empties into the Dead Sea

lighting – landing on something or someone

obey – to do what is asked of you by someone in charge

ought – should; used to express what needs to be done

pleased – feeling happy or satisfied

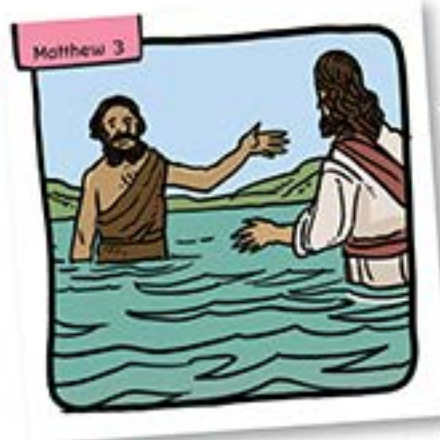
prophet – a person God has chosen to speak God's message

requires – desires or demands to happen

Recommended:

Tell It! Cards

Reinforce comprehension with *The Catholic Children's Bible Tell It! Cards*.



1 Jesus Obeys His Heavenly Father

Matthew 3

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Vocabulary Cards

Build vocabulary using *The Catholic Children's Bible Vocabulary Flash Cards*.



to admit a sin or mistake

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Level: 1.8
 Word Count: 267
 Reading Level Correlations:
 Guided Reading: J
 DRA: 18
 Lexile®: 600L

2

John Calls the People to Baptism




John the Baptist was a **prophet**. Many people come from all over to hear John teach.

John told the people that Jesus was coming soon and they needed to prepare for the Lord!

John said to them, "Turn toward God. Turn away from your sins." The people listened to John and **confessed** their sins. Then John **baptized** many in the **Jordan River**. Their baptism was a sign of turning toward God.

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Jesus Wants to Be Baptized

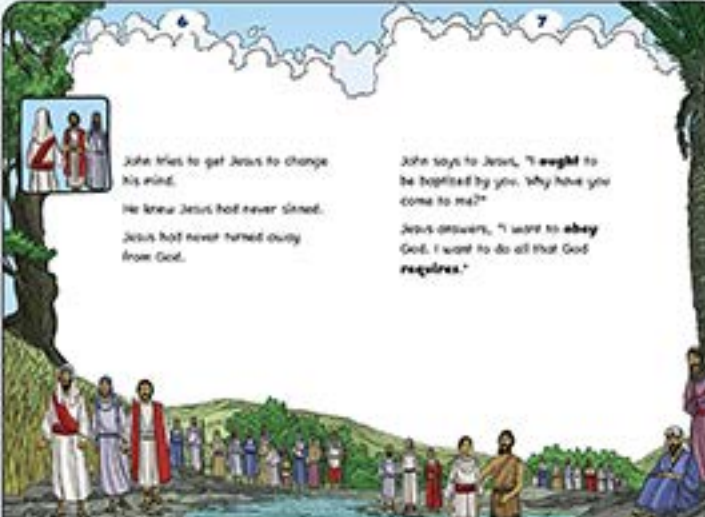


Jesus knew that John was baptizing people. Jesus traveled from **Galilee** to find John. Jesus wanted John to baptize him.

Jesus arrives at the Jordan River. Jesus sees all the people getting baptized. Jesus says to John, "I have come so that you will baptize me."

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John Tries to Get Jesus to Change His Mind



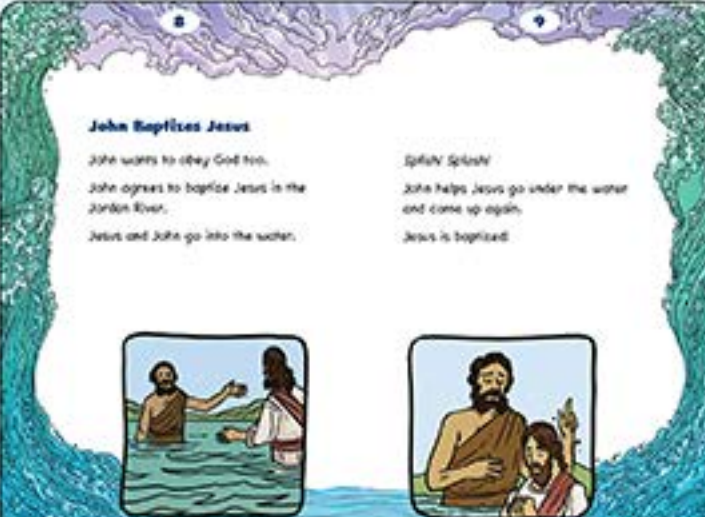
John knew Jesus had never sinned. Jesus had never turned away from God.

John says to Jesus, "I **would** to be baptized by you. Why have you come to me?"

Jesus answers, "I want to **obey** God. I want to do all that God **requires**."

8

John Baptizes Jesus



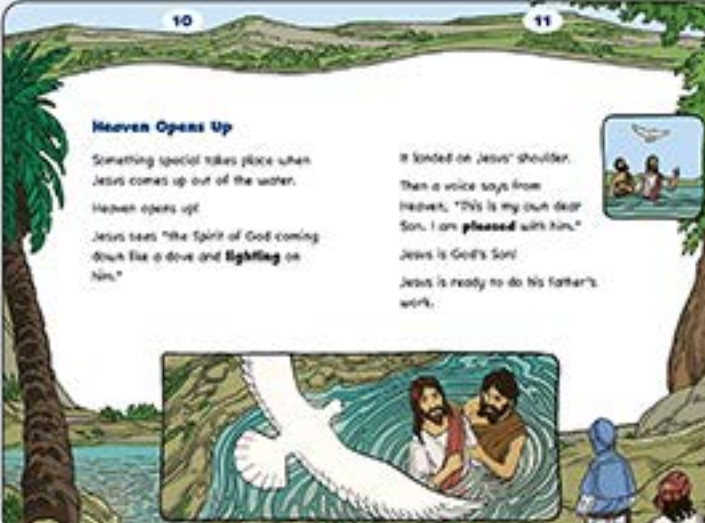
John wants to obey God too. John agrees to baptize Jesus in the Jordan River. Jesus and John go into the water. Jesus is baptized.

Splish! Splish!

John helps Jesus go under the water and come up again.

10

Heaven Opens Up



Something special takes place when Jesus comes up out of the water. Heaven opens up!

Jesus sees "the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and **lighting** on him."

It landed on Jesus' shoulder. Then a voice says from Heaven, "This is my own dear Son. I am **pleased** with him."

Jesus is God's Son! Jesus is ready to do his father's work.

12

Glossary

baptize - to wash with water as a sign of turning toward God and away from sin. In the Catholic Church, baptism is a sacrament that makes us children of God and members of the Church.

confess - to admit a sin or mistake

Galilee - region of ancient Palestine located between the Sea of Galilee and the Sea of Tiberias

Jordan River - large body of water that flows south from the Sea of Galilee and empties into the Dead Sea

lighting - landing on something or someone

obey - to do what is asked of you by someone in charge

would - always used to express what needs to be done

pleased - feeling happy or satisfied

prophet - a person God has chosen to speak God's message

requires - needs or demands to happen

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Guiding Comprehension Questions

Literal Questions

- Who was baptizing the people?
- Where were Jesus baptized?
- What happened right after Jesus was baptized?

Inferred Questions

- What did the people have to do before they could receive baptism?
- Why did Jesus want to be baptized?
- Where were do you think you have heard John preach?

Applied Questions

- What is a way we can obey our heavenly father?
- Name some times when you have heard God in your everyday life.
- How about the Sign of the Cross remind us of our baptism?