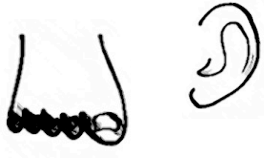


Sunday 10th January: John Baptises Jesus Younger Group

Gathering prayer – ask your Junior Church kids to teach you the actions!



From the top of my head to the tips of my toes
From the lobes of my ears to the end of my nose
From my back to my front to my wiggly fingers
God loves me!



Wash your hands

Today we are thinking about baptism. Baptism is a symbol of washing away the old, and sometimes bad, ways we do things and starting again in good ways.

So let's start this new year by washing away our old ways and starting new and better ways. We can remember this every time we wash our hands. Let's practice now:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L89nN03pBzl>

Mark 1: 4-11

John was Jesus' cousin.

He lived in the wilderness, he wore clothes made of camel hair and ate locusts!

He baptized people in the river and told them that someone even more special was coming, someone whose sandals he wasn't even important enough to untie!

He was preparing people to meet Jesus.

One day, Jesus came to the river for John to baptize him.

As Jesus came out of the water, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove and a voice from heaven called: 'You are my Son. I love you and I am very pleased with you!'

Share the story together in your own bible or you can find it online

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=mark+1%3A4-11&version=NIV>

Making promises

At our baptisms lots of promises are made.

What is a promise?

Who makes the promises?

- The baptism candidate, or their parents
- The whole church family
- God parents
- God has made promises to us

What do we promise?

- To welcome the person into the church and teach them about God
- To pray for and care for the person
- To be a good example to them
- To reject bad ways and say sorry for bad things we have done
- To follow Jesus

Promise pictures

What promise would you like to make today?

Can you draw/cut out/colour your own shapes ready to make our promises? Find some templates below, or you could choose another shape.

Now can you write or draw your promise in the middle of your picture? Perhaps you could ask your grown up to do the writing and display it somewhere to remind you of your promise?

'Roots' Colouring and activity sheets

Roots have a collection of resources for families at home. This week's sheets can be found at:

- <https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/21752/10th-january-2021-activity-sheet.pdf> And it looks like the Roots team needs some maths practice too!
- <https://www.rootsontheweb.com/lectionary/2021/111-january-february-2021-b/baptism-of-the-lord/this-weeks-images>

Song

To the tune of 'I'm a little teapot'

At this new beginning, God is near,
guiding, helping, bringing cheer.

When we feel uncertain, we can shout –
God will always help us out!

A prayer to use this week

May the God of new beginnings
give you courage to face each new challenge,
give you joy in each new day,
and give you friends to journey with you through this new week.

Amen.

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