

# The BIBLE STORY

## Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Use dramatic dialogue:** Stand in one spot when telling Jesus' words. Then turn and face that spot as you speak the Devil's words.
- **Emphasize repetition:** After each time the Devil tempted Jesus, pause and ask, "Do you think Jesus gave in to temptation?" Kids should reply, "No!"

## Jesus Was Tempted

*Matthew 4:1-22*

After Jesus was baptized, He was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil. **Jesus did not eat for 40 days and 40 nights.** He prayed and thought about God's plan for His life. **When those days were over, Jesus was hungry.**

Then the Devil, who tempts people to sin, **came up to Jesus.** He said, "If You are really God's Son, prove it. Tell these stones to become bread."

If Jesus used His power to turn the stones into bread, He could eat them so He wouldn't be hungry anymore. **But Jesus refused.** Instead of using His own power, **Jesus chose to trust God to meet His needs.** Jesus said, "God's Word says: **Man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.**"

The Devil tempted Jesus again. He took Jesus to Jerusalem, which was called the holy city. The Devil took Jesus up **to the top of the temple.** Jesus stood on the roof, and **the Devil said, "If You are really God's Son, prove it. Jump off this temple and trust God to protect You."**

Then the Devil said: "God's Word says: **God will order His angels to keep You safe,** and they will protect You so that You will not even strike your foot against a stone."

The Devil had used words from Scripture, but Jesus knew the Devil's command was foolish. Jesus reminded him, "God's Word also says: **Do not test the Lord your God.**"

Finally, the Devil took Jesus to a high mountain. He showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and how

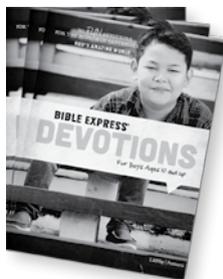
great they were. **The Devil said to Jesus, “I will give You all the riches and power of these kingdoms.** They belong to me, and I can give them to anyone I want. **If You want them, all You have to do is fall down and worship me.”**

**Jesus resisted temptation again. He replied, “Go away, Satan! God’s Word says: Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.”**

**The Devil left Jesus, and angels came right away to serve Jesus. Throughout all these temptations, Jesus never sinned.**

After that, Jesus began His ministry. He preached and said, “Repent, because the kingdom of heaven is near!” Jesus called some fishermen to follow Him. Peter, Andrew, James, and John left their nets and followed Jesus.

*Christ Connection: Jesus was tempted, but He trusted God and never sinned. Jesus is perfect and righteous. A perfect sacrifice was required to take away sin. Jesus was that perfect sacrifice. He died on the cross to free us from sin and to give us the power to say no to temptation.*



**WANT TO  
DISCOVER  
GOD’S WORD?  
GET  
BIBLE EXPRESS!**

Invite kids to check out this week’s devotionals to discover that Jesus was tempted and never sinned. As a result, Jesus is the perfect sacrifice to take away sin. Jesus is Lord of all. (Acts 10:36) Order in bulk, subscribe quarterly, or purchase individually. For more information, check out [www.lifeway.com/devotionals](http://www.lifeway.com/devotionals).

## The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they have ever heard the word *gospel*. Clarify that the word *gospel* means “good news.” It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.



**God rules.** Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.



**We sinned.** Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



**God provided.** Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.

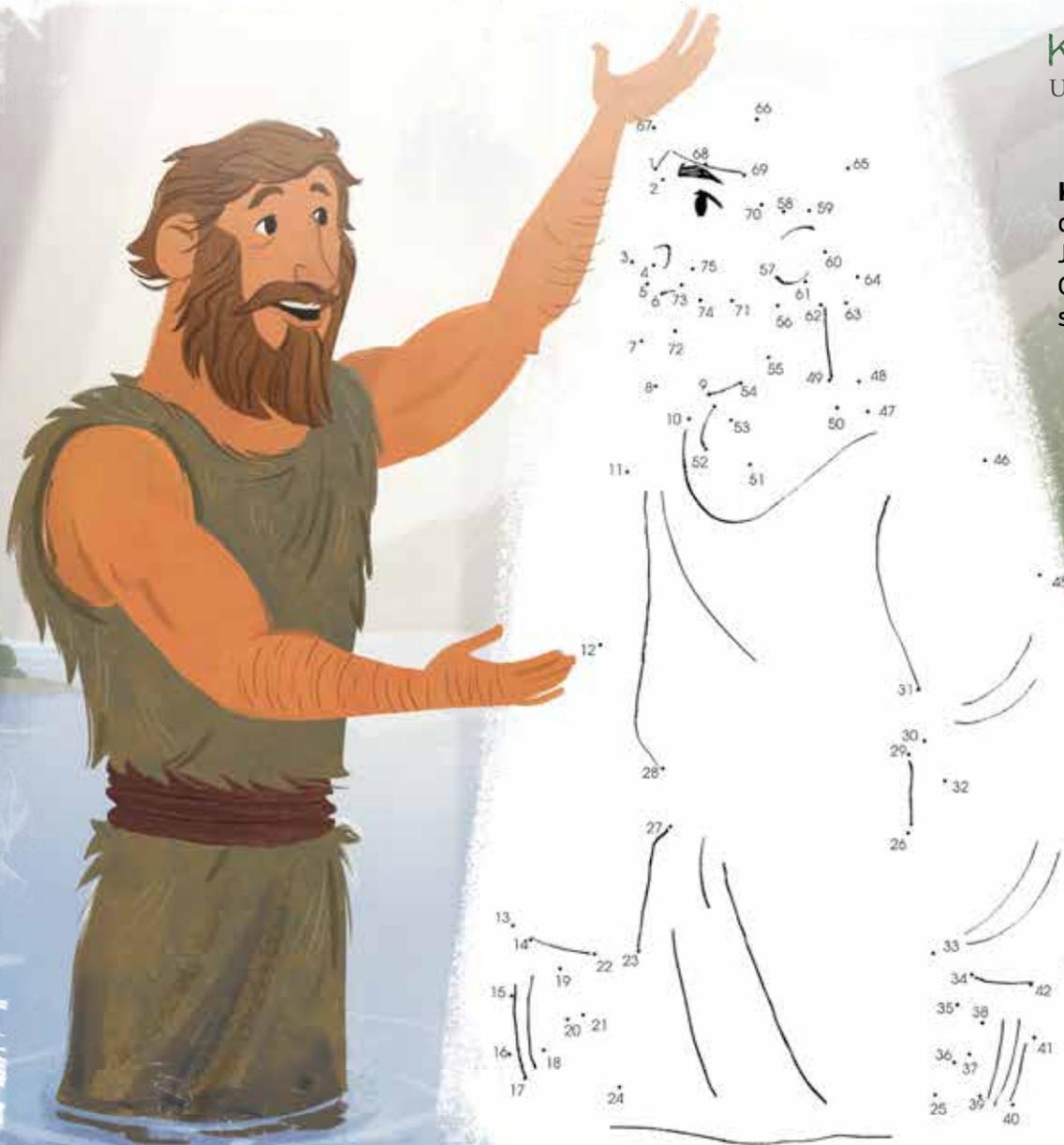


**Jesus gives.** Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:18.



**We respond.** Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.

Offer to talk with any child who is interested in responding to Jesus. Provide *I'm a Christian Now* for new Christians to take home and complete with their families.



## Baptism Dot-to-Dot

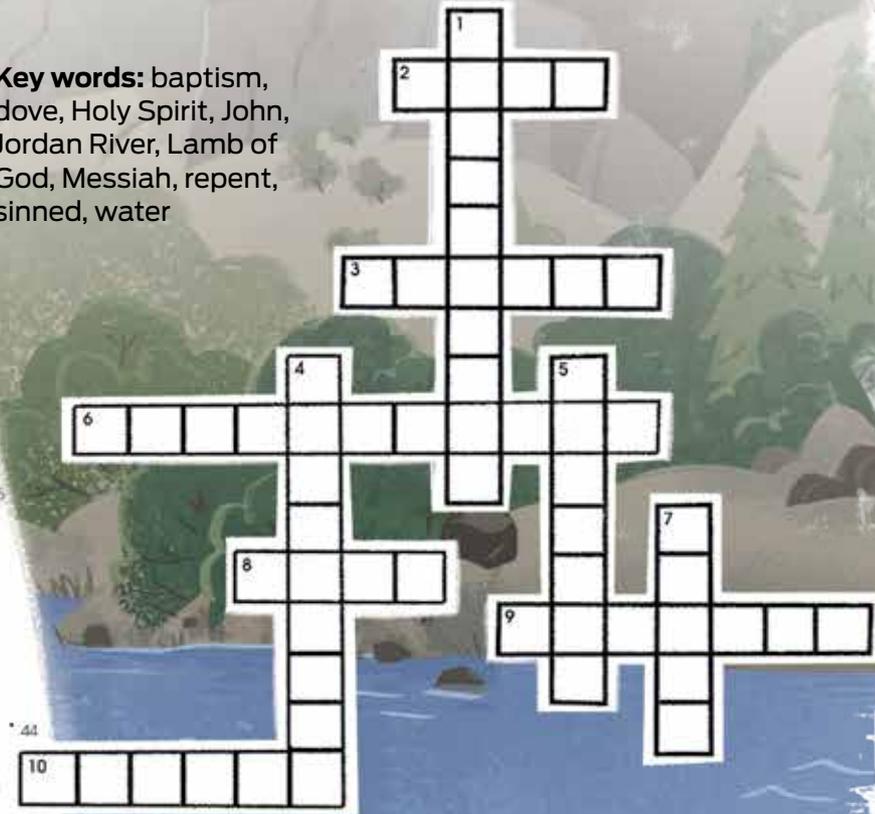
Connect the dots to finish the picture. Then complete the sentence:

\_\_\_\_\_ obeyed God by being baptized by John.

## Key Word Crossword Puzzle

Use the clue and key words to fill in the crossword puzzle.

**Key words:** baptism, dove, Holy Spirit, John, Jordan River, Lamb of God, Messiah, repent, sinned, water



### ACROSS

2. the messenger who got people ready for Jesus (John 1:23)
3. to turn away from sin and turn to God (Mark 1:4)
6. the place where Jesus was baptized (Matthew 3:13)
8. The Spirit came down like this animal (Matthew 3:16)
9. a way to show that a person's sins are washed away (Mark 1:4)
10. Jesus never did this (Matthew 3:14-15)

### DOWN

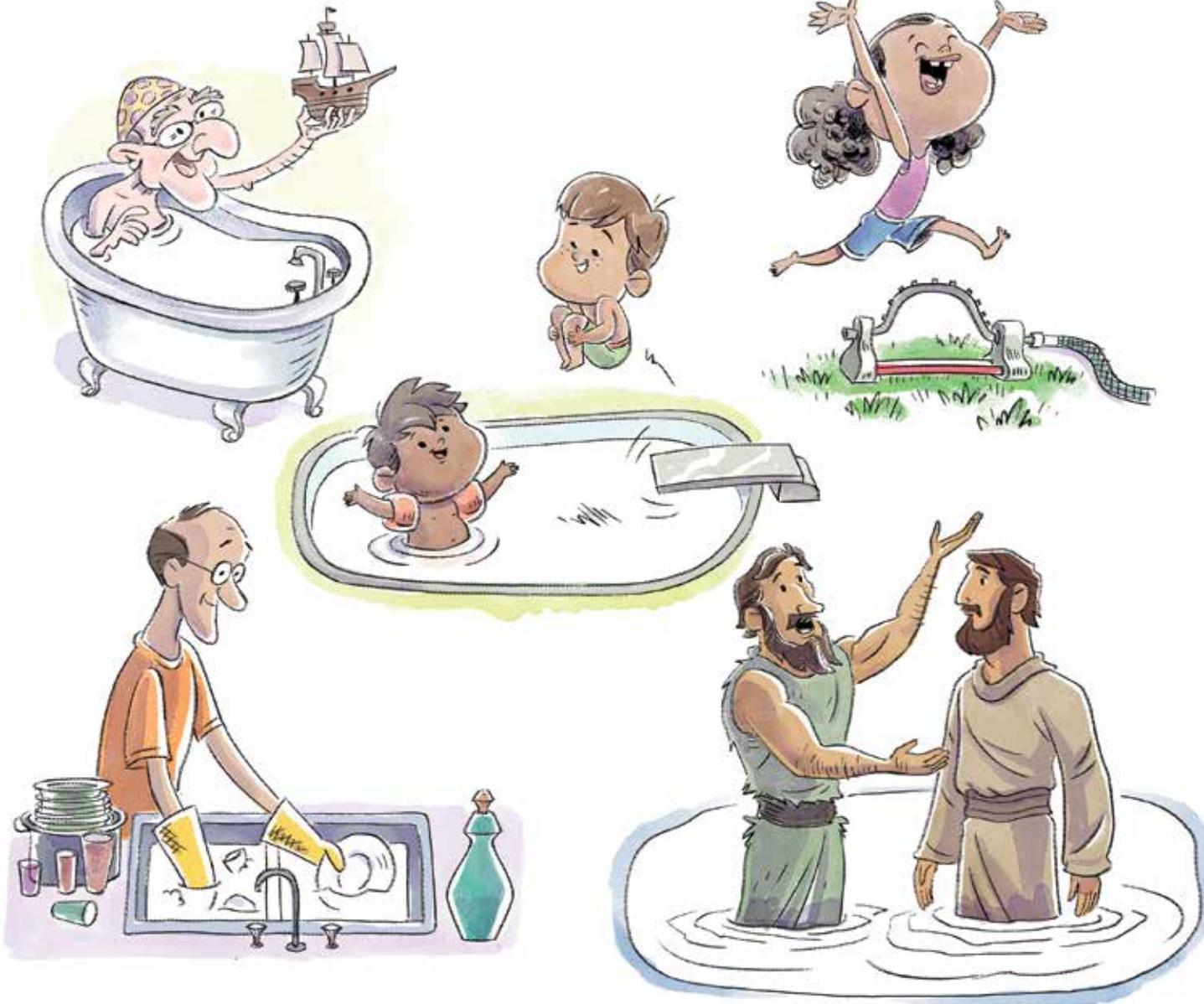
1. what Jesus baptizes with (Mark 1:8)
4. John called Jesus this name (John 1:29)
5. John said he was not the promised \_\_\_\_\_. (John 1:20)
7. what John baptized with (Mark 1:8)



# Dip and Dunk

DOWNLOAD THE  
TGP FAMILY APP

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Use blue markers, crayons, or colored pencils to add water to each of the following scenes.



**KEY PASSAGE:** 1 Timothy 1:15

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

- What makes Jesus different?  
Jesus is fully God and fully man.

**BIBLE STORY:**

**JESUS WAS BAPTIZED**

- John the Baptist was preaching that people should repent and be baptized.
- Jesus asked John to baptize Him, but John knew Jesus had never sinned.
- Jesus obeyed God by being baptized.
- God spoke, saying that Jesus is His Son, and He is pleased by Jesus.

**FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:**

- How do you think John felt before baptizing Jesus? After?
- How do your kids know you love them?
- How do they know God loves them?

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:**

- Plan for your kids to attend worship with you. Point out the place where people are baptized. Talk about baptism's purpose.

*Younger Kids Activity Pages*  
Unit 19, Session 5